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Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Thematic cluster I: special and personal envoys and special advisers of the Secretary-General

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Summary

The present report contains the proposed resources for 2016 for 10 special political missions grouped under the thematic cluster of special and personal envoys and special advisers of the Secretary-General.

The proposed resources for 2016 for special political missions grouped under this cluster, with the exception of the Office of the Special Envoy for Yemen, the proposal for which will be submitted in a separate addendum, amount to $31,333,100 (net of staff assessment).

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I. Financial overview

1. The proposed resources for 2016 for special political missions grouped under this cluster amount to $31,333,100 (net of staff assessment). Table 1 below allows for a comparison between the proposed resources for 2016 and the requirements for 2015 as approved by the General Assembly in resolution 69/262 and after considering the reports of the Secretary-General (A/69/363/Add.1) and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/69/628).

Table 1
Resource requirements
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*		*Total requirements for 2015*	*Variance 2015-2016*
Mission	*Appropriation (1)*	*Estimated expenditure (2)*	*Variance (3)=(1)-(2)*	*Total (4)*	*Non-recurrent (5)*	*(6)*	*(7)=(4)-(6)*
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Myanmar	2 316.3	2 282.2	34.1	1 127.2	–	1 161.0	(33.8)
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus	6 115.3	5 390.8	724.5	2 564.6	26.9	3 139.2	(574.6)
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide	4 344.8	4 381.3	(36.5)	2 203.7	–	2 171.0	32.7
Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara	1 159.3	904.4	254.9	549.5	–	586.8	(37.3)
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004)	1 234.3	977.7	256.6	624.9	–	654.3	(29.4)
United Nations Representative to the Geneva International Discussions	4 150.3	4 016.4	133.9	2 034.4	–	2 042.6	(8.2)
Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	21 528.7	21 453.6	75.1	12 211.6	99.5	10 877.7	1 333.9
Office of the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan	2 673.8	2 351.1	322.7	1 412.7	2.4	1 328.5	84.2
Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel	6 843.3	6 056.9	786.4	3 865.0	–	3 987.7	(122.7)
Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region	9 161.2	9 276.8	(115.6)	4 739.5	140.0	4 550.1	189.4
Total	**59 527.3**	**57 091.2**	**2 436.1**	**31 333.1**	**268.8**	**30 498.9**	**834.2**

II. Special political missions

A. Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Myanmar

($1,127,200)

Background, mandate and objective

2. On 29 December 2014, the General Assembly adopted resolution 69/248, on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions on human rights, democracy and reconciliation in Myanmar, involving all relevant stakeholders, and to offer technical assistance to the Government of Myanmar in this regard. At the request and on behalf of the Secretary-General, the Special Adviser has continued to work towards the implementation of the good offices mandate for Myanmar.

3. The ongoing democratization process in Myanmar has required the Special Adviser to continue to implement good offices through comprehensive engagement with the authorities and other relevant stakeholders inside and outside of the country. In engaging with the Myanmar authorities and other relevant stakeholders, the Special Adviser has sought progress in three broad areas:

(a) Encouraging the Myanmar authorities to continue to pursue democratization and, in so doing, engage more openly with the international community;

(b) Supporting the work of the Union Peacemaking Working Committee (representing the Government) and the Nationwide Ceasefire Coordination Team (representing ethnic armed groups) at a final and critical stage of peace talks, which resulted in the agreement on a draft text for a nationwide ceasefire accord on 31 March 2015, and, in addition, supporting national efforts and the coordination of international assistance aimed at reconciliation and communal harmony in Myanmar, including in Rakhine;

(c) A more regularized pattern of engagement and cooperation between Myanmar and the United Nations system through the good offices process and facilitating multilateral support to improve democratic dividends and socioeconomic conditions in the country through strengthening the coordination between the United Nations and Myanmar.

4. The Secretary-General and his Special Adviser continue to engage closely with relevant Member States in implementing the good offices mandate. In addition to participating in bilateral meetings in New York and Myanmar, the Special Adviser briefed the Security Council on 2 April and 28 August 2015 on the situation in Myanmar. In addition, the Secretary-General convened the third meeting of the Partnership Group on Myanmar on 24 April 2015, which was attended by a senior delegation from Myanmar headed by U Soe Thane, Union Minister of the Office of the President.

Cooperation with other entities

5. The Special Adviser and his Office have cooperated closely with the Department of Political Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human

Rights (OHCHR), the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Peacebuilding Fund. Cooperation was also extended to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Resident Coordinator and other entities of the United Nations system. The Special Adviser has continued the established practice of consulting with the country team when visiting Myanmar. These regular consultations with other senior United Nations officials have helped to ensure system-wide coherence and coordination. In line with these efforts, the Special Adviser has continued to participate as a co-chair in the Inter-Agency Task Force, which meets on a regular basis, and in the Senior Advisory Group on Myanmar. The Office of the Special Adviser continues to maintain an office in Myanmar, funded through extrabudgetary resources and administered by the United Nations Office for Project Services.

Performance information

6. Progress towards implementing the good offices mandate has been made, namely in the areas of national reconciliation, democratization and the promotion of human rights.

7. Negotiations between the Government and the ethnic armed groups resulted in agreement on a draft text of a nationwide ceasefire accord on 31 March 2015. The Special Adviser remained in close contact with the stakeholders throughout the process and engaged with all sides with a view to helping build confidence in the process. During the reporting period, the Special Adviser visited Myanmar several times to meet with all stakeholders and observe the talks. In March 2015, he also visited China, where he met with that country's Special Envoy, Ambassador Wang Yingfan, whose efforts as official observer also contributed to the successful outcome of the talks.

8. The efforts of Myanmar towards full democratization have continued as President Thein Sein engaged key leaders on important political issues. A six-party talk convened by the President on 10 April 2015 with major political players, including the Parliament Speaker, the Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, could set the stage for future discussions to iron out key differences before and after the elections to be held during the present year (2015). The Special Adviser will continue to follow, monitor and assess developments to urge the holding of a credible, transparent and inclusive electoral process. Along with a number of international partners, the United Nations is working to support this process in coordination with the Union Election Commission.

9. The communal situation in Rakhine, namely the animosity between the Buddhist and Muslim communities, and elsewhere in Myanmar remains a matter of concern and was recently brought to the fore by the crisis gripping migrants stranded on vessels in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal, including many Rohingya Muslims from Rakhine State. The continued tensions between the communities could be seriously destabilizing, especially as the country approaches the general elections in November of the present year. The revocation of temporary identification cards, known as White Cards, from their holders, many of them

minorities, is worrisome as it risks disenfranchising thousands of people. The Secretary-General has been in close contact with President Sein and has expressed concern about the communal situation. The Special Adviser has also engaged with the authorities and other relevant stakeholders to urge that concerted action be taken to promote social cohesion, including through strong action against incitement and hate speech. Both publicly and in private consultations with the authorities, including during his latest mission to the country in May and June 2015, the Special Adviser has repeatedly stressed the need for the Government to address discrimination against the Rohingyas, to reconsider the "Race and Religion Protection" bills, which risk curtailing the human rights of minorities, and to improve the living conditions of the internally displaced persons in the affected areas.

10. As reported previously (see A/69/363/Add.1, para. 10), with assistance from UNFPA, Myanmar successfully conducted a census in 2014. Its results, with some exceptions including those in relation to ethnicity and religion, were released at the end of May 2015. The Office of the Special Adviser facilitated the cooperation between UNFPA and the Government throughout the process.

Planning assumptions for 2016

11. The three-pillar approach adopted by the Secretary-General of engagement in the political, humanitarian and development areas will remain a guiding framework for the good offices efforts in 2016, and the Office of the Special Adviser will continue to build on the work undertaken on those fronts in 2015.

12. On national reconciliation, the Special Adviser and his Office will continue to support efforts towards a nationwide ceasefire. The signing of the nationwide ceasefire accord by top leaders and its sustained implementation by all groups will be critical. It is equally important that a framework for political dialogue be agreed upon in order to gradually address key differences, including constitutional reform, the devolution of power and the role of the military, as part of a credible national dialogue.

13. While the overall trajectory of reforms in Myanmar remains positive, a number of challenges lie ahead. The holding of credible, inclusive and transparent elections in 2015 in a calm and free atmosphere will be of utmost importance. In the immediate aftermath of the elections, ensuring broad acceptance of the results and avoiding challenges through the use of violence will be crucial. The three months between the elections and the presidential electoral college's decision in March 2016 will be a time of considerable uncertainty, possible tension and intense behind-the-scenes negotiations. The outcome and whether the results are broadly accepted will determine whether there is a smooth transition of power and whether the next administration will have the broad support it needs to govern and continue reforms. The Special Adviser will continue to use all tools at his disposal to support the achievement of these goals.

14. With respect to the communal situation in Rakhine and other parts of the country, the Special Adviser and his Office will continue to work with all actors to promote social cohesion and condemn hate speech and incitement to violence. In particular, the Special Adviser will continue to support the Centre for Diversity and National Harmony in its efforts aimed at conducting interfaith dialogue and promoting religious tolerance. The Special Adviser will also work with the

Government to ensure that humanitarian and development actors have unimpeded access and the necessary capacity to address the temporary and long-term needs of populations affected by the communal violence of 2012. In addition, the Special Adviser will work with the Government to ensure that the citizenship status of White Card holders, including the Rohingyas, is addressed. Finally, the Special Adviser will work with UNFPA and the Government to pave the way for the release of the remaining results of the 2014 population census: the categories of ethnicity and religion.

15. The objective, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of the Office of the Special Adviser are set out below.

Table 2
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To advance the national reconciliation and democratization process in Myanmar	
Expected accomplishments	**Indicators of achievement**
(a) Progress towards national reconciliation	(a) (i) Sustained nationwide ceasefire between the Government of Myanmar and armed groups *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 0 Estimate 2015: 0 Target 2016: 1 (ii) Increased political dialogue between the Government and the various ethnic armed groups *Performance measures* (Number of meetings between the Government and ethnic armed groups) Actual 2014: 17 Estimate 2015: 20 Target 2016: 25
(b) Progress towards a transition to democracy	(b) (i) Number of inclusive dialogues among the nation's political stakeholders, including the Government, political parties, military and ethnic groups *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 1 Estimate 2015: 2 Target 2016: 3

	(ii) Freedom to hold political rallies *Performance measures* Actual 2014: no restrictions Estimate 2015: no restrictions Target 2016: no restrictions (iii) Number of laws and amendments adopted that advance fundamental freedoms *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 8 Estimate 2015: 10 Target 2016: 15
(c) Progress towards promotion and protection of human rights	(c) (i) Release of political prisoners *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 30 Estimate 2015: 13 Target 2016: 30 (ii) Number of human rights capacity-building/ training programmes conducted for members of the armed, police and prison forces *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 14 Estimate 2015: 20 Target 2016: 25 (iii) Number of interfaith initiatives *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 5 Estimate 2015: 8 Target 2016: 15

Outputs

- Annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (1)
- Regular engagement and consultations with the authorities of Myanmar and other relevant parties, including civil society groups, on all issues in connection with the democratic transition and national reconciliation

- Facilitation of the provision of technical assistance by the United Nations to promote reconciliation and national harmony in Rakhine
- Facilitation of the provision of technical assistance to the Government, upon request, and in coordination with relevant parts of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of Myanmar in meeting its development priorities
- Regular engagement with relevant Member States, including neighbouring States and other countries of the region, to develop common approaches in addressing the situation in Myanmar
- Briefings by the Special Adviser to the General Assembly and the Security Council (2)
- Briefings by the Special Adviser to the Partnership Group on Myanmar, as requested (2)

External factors

16. The good offices role of the Secretary-General, carried out largely through the Special Adviser, is expected to achieve its objective, provided that the Government of Myanmar and other relevant parties remain committed to strengthening democratic institutions, consolidating gains from peace talks, including through full implementation of the nationwide ceasefire, and promoting national harmony.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 3
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*		*Total requirements for 2015*	*Variance 2015-2016*
Category	*Appropriation (1)*	*Estimated expenditure (2)*	*Variance (3)=(1)-(2)*	*Total (4)*	*Non-recurrent (5)*	*(6)*	*(7)=(4)-(6)*
Civilian personnel costs	1 681.9	1 659.4	22.5	820.4	–	843.8	(23.4)
Operational costs	634.4	622.8	11.6	306.8	–	317.2	(10.4)
Total	**2 316.3**	**2 282.2**	**34.1**	**1 127.2**	**–**	**1 161.0**	**(33.8)**

Table 4
Positions

	Professional category and above									*General Service and related category*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2015	1	–	–	–	–	2	1	–	4	–	1	5	–	–	–	5
Proposed 2016	1	–	–	–	–	2	1	–	4	–	1	5	–	–	–	5
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

17. The anticipated unencumbered balance in 2014-2105 reflects: (a) lower staff costs than budgeted; and (b) the pattern of expenditure for communications, ground transportation, local logistical and administrative support and stationery and office supplies.

18. The proposed resources for the Office of the Special Adviser for 2016, amounting to $1,127,200 (net of staff assessment), provide for the salaries and common staff costs for the continuation of the five positions (1 Under-Secretary-General, 2 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 General Service (Other level)) ($820,400), and operational costs ($306,800) comprising official travel ($198,900), facilities and infrastructure ($83,500), ground transportation ($2,700), communications ($12,600), information technology ($5,800) and other supplies, services and equipment ($3,300).

19. In 2016, it is proposed that the number and level of positions for the Office of the Special Adviser remain unchanged.

20. The variance (decrease) between the proposed resources for 2016 and the approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to: (a) the provision at the actual average step in grade and dependency status of current incumbents, and the ratio of actual common staff cost expenditures to actual salaries, based on expenditure trends; and (b) the projected travel plan, which includes fewer trips to other areas within the region.

Extrabudgetary resources

21. The Office of the Special Adviser has benefited from voluntary contributions that enabled the establishment of a local office in Myanmar. In 2015, extrabudgetary resources amounting to approximately $646,700 are being used to provide for one Senior Political Affairs Officer position (P-5) and one Administrative Assistant position (Local level) in Myanmar, as well as operational costs, including communications, official travel and other miscellaneous services.

22. In 2016, extrabudgetary resources of $58,000 are estimated to remain to support the continuation of operations of the local office in Myanmar. Additional resources will be sought from donors for the remainder of the amount required for the year.

B. Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus

($2,564,600)

Background, mandate and objective

23. The Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary General on Cyprus, also known as the good offices mission, supports the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus, whose mandate is to assist the parties in the conduct of negotiations aimed at reaching a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus issue.

24. On 10 July 2008, in a letter to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/456), the Secretary-General announced the appointment of his Special Adviser on Cyprus as at 14 July 2008, to assist the parties in the conduct of full-fledged negotiations aimed at reaching a comprehensive settlement to the Cyprus issue. On 3 September 2008, the leaders began full-fledged negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations on chapters related to the issues of governance and

power-sharing, property, European Union matters, economic matters, security and guarantees and territory.

25. Since the start of the full-fledged negotiations, the Secretary-General has provided progress reports to the Security Council on the activities of the good offices mission in Cyprus (S/2009/610, S/2010/238, S/2010/603, S/2011/112, S/2011/498 and S/2012/149). The Special Adviser has briefed the Security Council nine times (10 June 2010, 30 November 2010, 15 March 2011, 7 September 2011, 29 March 2012, 10 July 2012, 30 May 2013, 22 January 2014 and 26 January 2015). In addition, both the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser have maintained a steady pace of meetings to brief international stakeholders and key regional Governments.

26. Following the adoption of a joint declaration by the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders at their meeting on 11 February 2014, the substantive negotiations continued and led to the leaders' meeting held on 17 September 2014, in which the sides agreed to enter into a new phase of structured negotiations. Negotiations were disrupted in October 2014, however, by developments in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Cyprus and subsequently stalled until April 2015, when the Special Adviser announced that conditions that had led to the situation had been removed. Following the selection of a new Turkish Cypriot leader in April 2015, the leaders met on 15 May 2015, officially resuming the talks. Since then, negotiations have progressed at an invigorated pace and in a positive climate.

27. Seven technical committees (crime and criminal matters, economic and commercial matters, cultural heritage, crisis management, humanitarian matters, health and the environment) were established in 2008 to improve the daily life of Cypriots through confidence-building measures. In 2012, two additional committees were established, on broadcasting and on the opening of new crossings. The work of these committees is facilitated by the United Nations (the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus and the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)).

28. Following the departure of Alexander Downer of Australia as Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus in April 2014, Espen Barth Eide of Norway was appointed in August 2014.

Cooperation with other entities

29. The good offices mission has been designed to ensure maximum synergy with UNFICYP and the rest of the United Nations family in Cyprus and thereby ensure coherent and effective support to the peace effort. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Cyprus and Head of UNFICYP normally acts as Deputy Special Adviser to the Secretary-General with regard to the issues relating to the mandate of the good offices mission. The Special Representative ensures the provision of support to the Office of the Special Adviser by both UNFICYP (on a non-reimbursable basis) and the United Nations country team. The Deputy Special Adviser coordinates initiatives undertaken by United Nations agencies and by the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus.

30. In line with the integrated approach of the United Nations presence in the country, UNFICYP will continue to provide logistic and administrative support to the Office of the Special Adviser, with a view to ensuring coherent facilitation of the negotiation process. The detailed review of coordination arrangements between the

Office and UNFICYP produced in June 2010 remains valid (see A/65/706, annex III). A formal agreement on administrative and logistical support was concluded in 2013 between UNFICYP and the Office, and was reviewed in 2015.

Performance information

31. The leaders resumed full-fledged negotiations in May 2015 by embracing a comprehensive and structured process with fully empowered negotiators. The leaders agreed to meet twice a month. During the period from January to May 2015, the United Nations held eight meetings with the two leaders individually, aiming at facilitating the resumption of the process. The Office of the Special Adviser continues to facilitate meetings of the two negotiators, who have agreed to meet at least twice a week. Besides joint meetings of the negotiators, the United Nations continues to engage in regular shuttle diplomacy bilateral meetings with the two sides in order to facilitate the discussions on specific issues.

32. It is expected that the work of the technical committees may intensify, given the current positive overall climate in the negotiations. During the period from January to May 2015, 126 meetings of technical committees and their subordinate bodies were held. In May 2015, three new confidence-building measures were formulated and approved by the leaders. It is expected that the technical committees will continue to implement further confidence-building measures during the remainder of 2015.

Planning assumptions for 2016

33. The Office of the Special Adviser does not foresee any major changes in its priorities, activities and operational requirements in 2016. With the conclusion of a joint declaration on 11 February 2014, the appointment of Espen Barth Eide as new Special Adviser to the Secretary-General in August 2014 and the statement issued following the leaders' meeting on 17 September 2014 in which the sides agreed to move to the next phase of structured negotiations, the process was set to move forward. As a consequence of developments in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Cyprus, the negotiations were suspended on 7 October 2014. On 7 April 2015, the Special Adviser announced the expected resumption of the talks. Following the selection of a new Turkish Cypriot leader on 26 April 2015 and the resumption of negotiations in May 2015, the Office will continue to facilitate meetings of the leaders, their negotiators and experts until a comprehensive settlement is reached. The Office will also continue to engage in regular shuttle diplomacy meetings with the two sides separately in order to facilitate the discussions on specific issues; engage with a variety of interlocutors, including representatives of political parties, civil society and women's groups, in support of the process; and engage with regional and international stakeholders in support of the process. The Office will also continue to facilitate technical committees, including any new committees that may be established, and support confidence-building measures. While Office staff/facilitators assume overall responsibility for each chapter of the negotiations, consultants provide specialized technical expertise when needed to contribute to resolving areas of disagreement and devise ideas for implementation strategies.

34. Should significant progress be achieved in the negotiations in 2016, the United Nations will be called upon to host a multilateral conference to address the final outstanding issues. The Office of the Special Adviser will engage, as and when required, in support of a broader assessment of the United Nations presence in Cyprus.

35. The Special Adviser is based in Geneva, and will undertake regular travel to Cyprus to hold meetings with the sides and facilitate the negotiations. The Special Adviser will also undertake regional travel and travel to New York for consultations with the Secretary-General and other senior officials, as needed.

36. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures for the mission are set out below.

Table 5
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To achieve a comprehensive settlement in the Cyprus problem

Expected accomplishments	**Indicators of achievement**
(a) Progress in the full-fledged negotiations towards a comprehensive settlement	(a) Increased convergence among parties on core and substantive issues
	Performance measures
	(Number of meetings between the leaders)
	Actual 2014: 26
	Estimate 2015: 38
	Target 2016: 54
	(Number of meetings between the representatives/ negotiators of the leaders to identify areas of convergence)
	Actual 2014: 87
	Estimate 2015: 100
	Target 2016: 146
	(Number of meetings of the working groups and technical committees to discuss specific areas of expertise and identify areas of convergence)
	Actual 2014: 247
	Estimate 2015: 250
	Target 2016: 250
	(Number of papers indicating movement towards convergence between the parties within the full-fledged negotiation process)
	Actual 2014: 100
	Estimate 2015: 150
	Target 2016: 150

(b) Implementation of confidence-building measures formulated by the technical committees and approved by the leaders aimed at easing the daily life of Cypriots across the island

Performance measures

(Number of confidence-building measures)

Actual 2014: 38

Estimate 2015: 53

Target 2016: 60

Outputs

- Bilateral meetings with Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders, or their representatives or advisers, related to all the chapters of the negotiations (160)
- Advice to the sides and policy options papers on issues related to all the chapters of the negotiations (150)
- Briefings and bilateral meetings with the international community (100)
- Facilitation of meetings held by the working groups as well as meetings of the technical committees on procedural, legal, technical and substantive issues related to all the chapters of the negotiations (229)
- Meetings with leaders of political parties and other influential individuals and groups, media, academics and civil society from the two communities, and participation in events contributing to an enabling environment for the negotiation process (80)
- Contact with the Cypriot and international media (50 interviews and 30 press releases) in cooperation with UNFICYP
- Ongoing multimedia outreach campaign to build support for the negotiation process
- Reports and/or briefings to the Security Council (4)

External factors

37. The objective is expected to be achieved, provided that the political will of the leaders and of their respective communities overcome current political and economic challenges and that there is continuing support from the international community.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 6
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			Requirements for 2016		Total requirements for 2015	Variance 2015-2016
	Appropriation	Estimated expenditure	Variance	Total	Non-recurrent		
Category	(1)	(2)	(3)=(1)-(2)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)=(4)-(6)
Civilian personnel costs	4 471.2	3 941.2	530.0	1 849.4	–	2 339.5	(490.1)
Operational costs	1 644.1	1 449.6	194.5	715.2	26.9	799.7	(84.5)
Total	**6 115.3**	**5 390.8**	**724.5**	**2 564.6**	**26.9**	**3 139.2**	**(574.6)**

Table 7
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									General Service and related categories			National staff			
	USG	ASG	D-2	D-1	P-5	P-4	P-3	P-2	Subtotal	Field Security Service	General Service	Total international	National Professional Officer	Local level	United Nations Volunteers	Total
Approved 2015	1[a]	–	–	1	3	5	–	–	10	3	1	14	–	5	–	19
Proposed 2016	1[a]	–	–	1	3	5	–	–	10	3	1	14	–	5	–	19
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

[a] The Under-Secretary-General is on a when-actually-employed (WAE) contract.

38. The anticipated unencumbered balance in 2014-2015 is attributable mainly to: (a) lower-than-budgeted requirements for international staff due to lower-than-budgeted post adjustment rates in 2015 and lower actual expenditures for common staff costs than budgeted; (b) lower-than-budgeted national staff costs due to the favourable movement of the exchange rate and lower-than-budgeted common staff costs; and (c) lower requirements for interpretation services due to changes in the nature and frequency of the leaders' meetings and a brief suspension of the talks.

39. Resource requirements for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 amount to $2,564,600 (net of staff assessment) and would provide for the salaries and common staff costs ($1,849,400) for the continuation of the 19 positions (1 Under-Secretary-General on a when-actually-employed contract, 1 D-1, 3 P-5, 5 P-4, 3 Field Service, 1 General Service (Other level), 5 Local level), as well as operational requirements ($715,200) comprising consultants ($116,400), official travel ($171,000), facilities and infrastructure ($85,200), ground transportation ($40,100), communications ($59,900), information technology ($51,400) and other supplies, services and equipment ($191,200).

40. In 2016, there will be no change to the proposed number and level of positions for the Office of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Cyprus. In the light of the recent changing political dynamics in the Cyprus negotiations, it is

proposed that the Special Assistant position (P-4) be relocated from New York to Cyprus.

41. The variance (decrease) between the proposed resources for 2016 and the approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to: (a) decreased staff and airfare costs due to the proposed relocation of the Special Assistant to the Special Adviser from New York to Nicosia, which will result in reduced travel of the Special Assistant between New York and Cyprus; (b) decreased international staff costs due mainly to decreased post adjustment and common staff costs in Cyprus since the preparation of the 2015 budget; and (c) reduced consultant costs due to the anticipated three fewer trips required in 2016 and the reduction in the rate of the daily subsistence allowance for Cyprus, offset in part by higher information technology costs due mainly to the requirement to replace obsolete equipment.

Extrabudgetary resources

42. No extrabudgetary resources were available in 2015 or are projected for the Office of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Cyprus.

C. Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

($2,203,700)

Background, mandate and objective

43. Pursuant to the invitation of the Security Council to the Secretary-General in its resolution 1366 (2001) to refer to the Council information and analysis from within the United Nations system on cases of serious violations of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, the Secretary-General, in a letter dated 12 July 2004 (S/2004/567), informed the President of the Council of his decision to appoint a Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide. In his reply dated 13 July 2004 (S/2004/568), the President of the Council informed the Secretary-General that the Council had taken note of his intention.

44. The Secretary-General listed the responsibilities of the Special Adviser as follows:

(a) To collect existing information, in particular from within the United Nations system, on massive and serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law of ethnic and racial origin that, if not prevented or halted, might lead to genocide;

(b) To act as a mechanism of early warning to the Secretary-General, and through him to the Security Council, by bringing to their attention situations that could potentially result in genocide;

(c) To make recommendations to the Council, through the Secretary-General, on actions to prevent or halt genocide;

(d) To liaise with the United Nations system on activities for the prevention of genocide and work to enhance the United Nations capacity to analyse and manage information regarding genocide or related crimes.

45. The primary normative reference of the work of the Special Adviser is drawn, in addition to the exchange of letters, from the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; the wider body of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law; and resolutions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Human Rights Council, including the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

46. With regard to the responsibility to protect, it will be recalled that in paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the General Assembly addressed the responsibility of Member States and the international community to protect populations by preventing genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and their incitement. The assembled Heads of State and Government pledged, among other things, to support the United Nations in establishing early warning capacity in this regard. They also called on the Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect. The Assembly adopted the World Summit Outcome in its resolution 60/1, while the Security Council reaffirmed the provisions of paragraphs 138 and 139 in paragraph 4 of its resolution 1674 (2006) and this reaffirmation was recalled in the second preambular paragraph of resolution 1706 (2006). By including paragraph 140 in the section of the outcome document on the responsibility to protect, which expressed full support for the mission of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, the World Summit participants underscored the close relationship between the two mandates.

47. On 31 August 2007, in a letter to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/721), the Secretary-General expressed his intention to appoint a Special Adviser to focus on the responsibility to protect. In his reply dated 7 December 2007 (S/2007/722), the President of the Council informed the Secretary-General that the Council had taken note of the decision of the Secretary-General. The Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect is charged with the conceptual, institutional and operational development of the principle and with continuing a political dialogue with Member States on its implementation.

48. To contribute to dialogue with and among Member States and to outline a strategy for addressing the provisions of paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in January 2009 the Secretary-General issued a report entitled "Implementing the responsibility to protect" (A/63/677). In the annex to that report, the Secretary-General indicated his intention to establish a joint office for the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect, given the close and complementary nature of their work. The report of the Secretary-General was debated in the General Assembly in July 2009 leading to the adoption, by consensus, of the first resolution on the responsibility to protect (resolution 63/308), in which the Assembly reaffirmed its intention to continue its consideration of the concept. In his report to the Assembly of July 2010 on early warning, assessment and the responsibility to protect (A/64/864), the Secretary-General reiterated his proposal to institutionalize the collaboration between the two Special Advisers.

49. In its resolutions 2150 (2014) on the maintenance of international peace and security and the prevention of genocide and 2171 (2014) on the maintenance of international peace and security-conflict prevention, the Security Council reaffirmed paragraphs 138 and 139 of the World Summit Outcome document and recalled the

important role of the Special Advisers on the Prevention of Genocide and on the Responsibility to Protect, "whose functions include acting as an early warning mechanism to prevent potential situations that could result in genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and ethnic cleansing" (see resolution 2171 (2014), para. 16).

Cooperation with other entities

50. The Special Advisers operate in close collaboration with other United Nations entities, including the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Department of Political Affairs, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OHCHR and Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council, the Office of Legal Affairs, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNDP and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The Special Advisers contribute to key policy forums of the United Nations, including the Policy Committee of the Secretary-General, his senior management team and the Executive Committee on Peace and Security. The staff of the Office of the Special Advisers also contribute to integrated task forces and working groups on country situations and thematic issues. The Office has continued to support implementation of the Human Rights Up Front initiative of the Secretary-General and has contributed to the internal review processes, including the five-year review of peacebuilding architecture requested by the General Assembly and Security Council and the work of the High-level Independent Panel on United Nations Peace Operations established by the Secretary-General.

Performance information

51. The Office of the Special Advisers has continued to refine its early warning methodology in order to alert the Secretary-General and, through him, the Security Council, as well as the broader United Nations system to situations where there is a risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity (see S/2004/567, annex, para. (b)). In 2014, the Office published an expanded framework of analysis, a methodological tool to guide assessment of the risk of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, based on applicable international law and jurisprudence. In its resolution 28/34 of 23 March 2015, the Human Rights Council took note of the framework of analysis and encouraged Member States and regional and subregional organizations to use relevant frameworks, as appropriate, for guidance in their prevention work.

52. The Special Advisers submitted four advisory notes to the Secretary-General during the first five months of 2015 on country or regional developments relevant to the prevention of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, with recommendations for preventive action. When requested, the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide has briefed the Security Council and Human Rights Council on matters relevant to his mandate.

53. The Special Advisers continued to develop initiatives in response to specific global risks and, in 2015, organized a series of meetings with religious leaders from across regions that resulted in a plan of action to prevent and counter incitement to

violence, hostility and discrimination that could lead to genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

54. The Special Advisers have continued to organize specialized training to develop capacity to identify risk factors for genocide and related crimes and the measures that can be taken to prevent them. This training has increasingly been requested by the United Nations, Member States and civil society. In the first five months of 2015, the Office of the Special Advisers organized or contributed to training or facilitated technical assistance in the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, El Salvador, Hungary, Jordan, Kosovo, Panama and Uganda. Further training activities are planned at locations in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. These activities have been organized in cooperation with Member States, United Nations partners and civil society.

55. Emphasizing the importance of a regional approach, the Special Advisers have continued to develop operational partnerships with regional and subregional arrangements for the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. They have also provided support through training and technical assistance aimed at developing or strengthening regional frameworks and mechanisms for the prevention of such crimes. Engagement with those organizations has led to: (a) increased cooperation on matters relevant to the mandates of the two Special Advisers; (b) greater awareness of the causes and dynamics of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and of the measures that can be taken to prevent them; and, as a consequence, (c) strengthened prevention, protection and response capacities.

56. With regard to cooperation with regional and subregional arrangements in Africa, the Special Advisers have continued to engage with the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Southern African Development Community and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development on preventive action, including in relation to situations in the region. The Office of the Special Advisers has provided particular support to the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region on implementation of the Protocol for the Prevention and the Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes Against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination. In May 2011, the 11 Member States of the Conference sought the technical support of the Special Advisers in developing regional and national early warning capacity and committed to establishing national committees on the prevention and punishment of genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and all forms of discrimination. The Office has since provided training and technical assistance to the Conference's Regional Committee on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination and to the National Committees of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, as well as to the Conference's National Coordination Mechanism in Zambia, to develop early warning capacity and strategies for prevention and response. In 2015, the Office has supported the development and activities of established committees; the establishment of a national committee by the Central African Republic and of provincial subcommittees by the Democratic Republic of the Congo in North and South Kivu Provinces, the latter in cooperation with the United Nations Stabilization Organization in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and UNDP.

57. In the Asia-Pacific region, the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide has continued to engage with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and some of its member States. Since 2014, the Office of the Special Advisers has been consulting with parliamentarians from ASEAN States on their role in relation to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity in South-East Asia.

58. In Europe, the Special Advisers have continued working with regional organizations to integrate atrocity prevention in policy and operational frameworks, in particular with the European Union. In 2015, the Special Advisers have briefed the Peace and Security Council and cooperated with the European Commission and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights on measures to prevent and counter incitement to violence. The Office of the Special Advisers has built on existing cooperation with the High Commissioner for National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and developed cooperation arrangements with the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the Conflict Prevention Centre. The Office of the Special Advisers has contributed to discussions at the Council of Europe on combating violent extremism and guidelines on countering incitement to violence.

59. In the Americas region, the Special Advisers have continued their collaboration with the Organization of American States on options to strengthen the regional framework for the prevention of genocide and related crimes, including through participation of the Office of the Special Advisers in desk-to-desk dialogues on country situations. The Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide also initiated engagement with the Union of South American Nations on the implementation of the regional prevention agenda. In parallel, the Special Advisers have continued to support initiatives of the Latin American Network for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, which includes 18 member States. Staff members of the Office have contributed as instructors to training activities of the Network, including in national capitals.

60. Cooperation with the League of Arab States in the Middle East and North Africa region has included the contribution of the League to capacity-building activities of the Office of the Special Advisers in the region.

61. The Special Advisers have continued to encourage the appointment by Member States of national focal points on genocide prevention and on the responsibility to protect and have provided substantive input to the activities of the different networks.

62. The political, institutional and operational development of the responsibility to protect principle has continued, in line with the decision of the General Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect principle. The two Special Advisers have consulted with Member States, both in New York and in national capitals, as well as with regional and subregional organizations, civil society and the United Nations system, on the implementation of the principle and ways to fulfil the commitment made by all Heads of State and Government in 2005 to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, as well as their incitement. The Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect oversaw the preparation of the seventh annual report of the Secretary-General of July 2015 on the matter (A/69/981-S/2015/500). The report, which was informed by consultations with Member States, regional organizations and civil society from all regions, assessed progress to date, identified outstanding challenges

and proposed priorities to guide implementation in the decade ahead. The Special Adviser also oversaw the preparations for the sixth informal Assembly dialogue on the responsibility to protect principle, to be held on 8 September 2015.

Planning assumptions for 2016

63. The Special Advisers will continue to advise the Secretary-General on situations where there is a risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and will recommend preventive action to be taken by the United Nations system. The Special Advisers will also continue to engage with Member States and regional organizations to promote cooperation, dialogue and capacity-building, with a view to preventing genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and identifying best practices from countries and regions that have averted them, including through curbing their incitement. To that end, the Special Advisers will continue to focus on four areas of work: (a) raising awareness; (b) collecting information and identifying concerns; (c) communicating concerns and recommendations; and (d) developing capacities for the prevention of and response to genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

Raising awareness

64. In order to prevent genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, the Office of the Special Advisers will continue to support the United Nations system, Member States, regional and subregional organizations and civil society to work collectively towards that goal. Promoting greater understanding of the causes and dynamics of genocide and related crimes and of the measures that can be taken to prevent them is a preventive measure in itself. In that regard, the Office will assist the General Assembly in its continued consideration of the responsibility to protect principle, including through the preparation of the annual reports of the Secretary-General on different dimensions of its application and the preparation of annual, informal, interactive dialogues on the responsibility to protect principle. In addition, the Office will organize, in partnership with the United Nations, Member States, regional organizations and civil society, specific activities to increase knowledge of and engagement on various dimensions of the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and the responsibility to protect principle.

65. The Office of the Special Advisers will disseminate research and publications it has developed on different aspects of the prevention of genocide and the responsibility to protect principle, in collaboration with the United Nations system and academic and research institutions, including through its website.

Collecting information and identifying concerns

66. The Special Advisers will continue to collect information and identify developments of concern worldwide from the perspective of the prevention of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, in consultation with United Nations departments, offices, funds and programmes and the Member States concerned. They will draw upon relevant human rights, political, development and humanitarian information, gathered primarily from United Nations sources, and assess situations based on the framework of analysis developed by the Office of the Special Advisers (see A/63/677, annex, and A/64/864). When appropriate, and in consultation with the relevant State and regional authorities, the Special Advisers

will conduct country visits to meet with government officials, regional organizations, United Nations country teams and other actors, as required.

Communicating concerns and recommendations

67. In accordance with past practice and the procedures outlined by the Secretary-General (see A/64/864), the Office of the Special Advisers will alert the Secretary-General to situations of concern and, through him, the Security Council, and recommend courses of action to prevent or halt genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The Special Advisers can advocate for measures available under the Charter of the United Nations that could be implemented by States in the exercise of their responsibilities, by international organizations and by the international community more generally.

68. Noting that prevention and protection have been most successful in situations in which a State agrees to take prompt action and in which the international community reaches a consensus on the problems and the response, the Special Advisers will use advocacy to encourage a political environment that supports prevention and protection through constructive engagement. Advocacy may be bilateral or multilateral, confidential or public.

Developing capacities to prevent and respond to genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity, as well as their incitement

69. The Office of the Special Advisers will continue to develop the scope of its training and technical assistance and contribute, when requested, to the development of State-led initiatives, including those of regional arrangements and international focal point networks. The Office will continue to encourage Member States to fulfil their responsibilities to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, as well as their incitement. In collaboration with relevant United Nations entities, the Special Advisers will also provide advice and assistance to strengthen the resilience to these crimes.

70. The Special Advisers will continue to consult widely to identify concerns and fill gaps in existing policy and guidance on the prevention of genocide and on the implementation of the responsibility to protect principle.

Table 8
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To advance national, regional and international efforts to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and their incitement

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Increased capacity of the United Nations system, Member States and regional and subregional organizations to identify and prevent or mitigate the risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity as a result of training and technical assistance provided by the Special Advisers	(a) (i) Number of officials from the United Nations, Member States, regional and subregional organizations trained by the Office of the Special Advisers on the identification, analysis and management of information regarding genocide and related crimes and on measures to prevent and mitigate the risk of these crimes

	Performance measures Actual 2014: 358 Estimate 2015: 350 Target 2016: 350
	(ii) Number of Member States/regional or subregional organizations that have received technical assistance from the Office and taken steps to establish national and regional initiatives or mechanisms for the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, including early warning mechanisms *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 5 Estimate 2015: 6 Target 2016: 6
(b) Greater awareness of the causes and dynamics of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and the measures that could be taken to prevent or mitigate the risk of these crimes occurring, including within the framework of the responsibility to protect principle	(b) Number of Member States and regional organizations that have requested or facilitated a visit by the Special Advisers on matters related to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, including their incitement, and implementation of the responsibility to protect principle *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 15 Estimate 2015: 15 Target 2016: 15
(c) Increased capacity of the United Nations system as a whole to prevent or mitigate the risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity as a result of timely and relevant advice and analysis of the risk of genocide and related crimes in a given situation provided by the Office of the Special Advisers, with recommendations for preventive measures	(c) Number of advisory notes, briefings, statements and policy documents that, based on consistent and reliable information received primarily from within the United Nations system, alert the Secretary-General and, through him, the Security Council, to situations where there is a potential risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and recommend courses of action to prevent these crimes *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 48 Estimate 2015: 50 Target 2016: 50

Outputs

- Early warning mechanism based on the systematic collection, management and analysis of information, primarily from within the United Nations system, on developments worldwide relevant to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity
- Monthly reports to the United Nations system on developments of concern worldwide
- Reports, briefings and advisory notes to the Secretary-General that include recommendations on strategies and policy options for action by the United Nations system to address situations where there is a risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity (12)
- Annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the responsibility to protect (1)
- Informal interactive dialogue during the seventieth session of the General Assembly in line with the decision of the Assembly to continue consideration of the responsibility to protect
- Training workshops, seminars and technical assistance to enhance the capacity of the United Nations, Member States and civil society to analyse the risk of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and to take preventive measures; development of training materials and establishment of a pool of expert trainers (12)
- Engagement with Member States and regional and subregional arrangements to advance the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and their incitement, through advisory missions, consultations and high-level workshops (15)
- Advocacy missions to countries or regions where the involvement of the Special Advisers is considered of particular value with respect to the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity (8)
- Development and dissemination of publications, research papers, guidance or policy tools on different aspects of the prevention of genocide and the responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, to fill existing gaps (8)

External factors

71. The objective is expected to be achieved, provided that there is continued commitment on the part of the Member States, including the Security Council, to engage with the Special Advisers to advance the prevention of genocide and implement the responsibility to protect principle; that Member States that are host to critical events are willing to engage with the Special Advisers; and that there is active engagement of Member States and regional and other organizations to develop preventive capacity and take appropriate action for the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 9
Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			Requirements for 2016			
Category	Appropriation (1)	Estimated expenditure (2)	Variance (3)=(1)-(2)	Total (4)	Non-recurrent (5)	Total requirements for 2015 (6)	Variance 2015-2016 (7)=(4)-(6)
Civilian personnel costs	2 897.2	3 022.2	(125.0)	1 484.5	–	1 449.2	35.3
Operational costs	1 447.6	1 359.1	88.5	719.2	–	721.8	(2.6)
Total	**4 344.8**	**4 381.3**	**(36.5)**	**2 203.7**	**–**	**2 171.0**	**32.7**

Table 10
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									General Service and related categories			National staff			
	USG	ASG	D-2	D-1	P-5	P-4	P-3	P-2	Subtotal	Field Security Service	General Service	Total international	National Professional Officer	Local level	United Nations Volunteers	Total
Approved 2015	1	1[a]	–	–	1	3	2	–	8	–	2	10	–	–	–	10
Proposed 2016	1	1[a]	–	–	1	3	2	–	8	–	2	10	–	–	–	10
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

[a] The Assistant Secretary-General is on a $1-per-year contract.

72. The anticipated overexpenditure in 2014-2015 is attributable mainly to the actual common staff costs of incumbents being higher than budgeted, which is offset in part by the decrease in requirements for consultants and communications based on the patterns of expenditure.

73. The proposed resources for 2016 for the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide amount to $2,203,700 (net of staff assessment) and would provide for the salaries and common staff costs for the continuation of the 10 positions (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 Assistant Secretary-General (on a $1-per-year contract), 1 P-5, 3 P-4, 2 P-3 and 2 General Service (Other level)) ($1,484,500), as well as operational costs ($719,200) comprising consultants ($91,000), official travel ($363,100), facilities and infrastructure ($168,100), ground transportation ($3,600), communications ($23,400), information technology ($11,000) and other supplies, services and equipment ($59,000).

74. In 2016, the proposed number and level of positions for the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide will remain unchanged.

75. The variance (increase) between the resources proposed for 2016 and the 2015 approved budget reflects the provision at the actual average step in grade and

dependency status of current incumbents, and the ratio of actual common staff cost expenditures to actual salaries, based on expenditure trends.

Extrabudgetary resources

76. In 2015, extrabudgetary resources amounting to approximately $640,000 are committed to provide mainly for the continuation of the two P-2 positions, the capacity-building programme and for the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General for 2015 on the responsibility to protect.

77. In 2016, extrabudgetary resources amounting to approximately $540,000 are anticipated. These funds will be used primarily to support the capacity-building programme of the Office of the Special Advisers and the preparation of the 2016 report of the Secretary-General on the responsibility to protect.

D. Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara

($549,500)

Background, mandate and objective

78. On 6 January 2009, the Secretary-General appointed Christopher Ross as his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara (see S/2009/19) and indicated to the Security Council that the Personal Envoy would work with the parties and the neighbouring States, on the basis of Security Council resolution 1813 (2008) and earlier resolutions, in order to achieve a just, durable and mutually acceptable political solution, which would provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

79. As in previous resolutions, in its resolution 2218 (2015) the Security Council called upon the parties and the neighbouring States to cooperate more fully with the United Nations and with each other to strengthen their involvement to end the current impasse and to achieve progress towards a political solution. The Secretary-General further called for his Personal Envoy to intensify his efforts and for the parties to continue negotiations under his own auspices.

Cooperation with other entities

80. The Personal Envoy reports on his findings and recommendations to the Secretary-General through the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs. The Departments of Political Affairs and Peacekeeping Operations, both at Headquarters and through the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), provide support to the Personal Envoy. MINURSO shares with the Personal Envoy media reports and code cables on the latest developments in the Western Saharan territory and in the refugee camps near Tindouf. MINURSO also facilitates the trips of the Personal Envoy, on a non-reimbursable basis, within the MINURSO area of operation, covering Western Sahara and the refugee camps. Starting in 2015, the Personal Envoy is in charge of the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara.

Performance information

81. Following the publication of the report of the Secretary-General in April 2014 (S/2014/258), Morocco suspended its cooperation with the United Nations until King Mohammed VI and the Secretary-General agreed on a way forward on 22 January 2015. Since then, the Personal Envoy has resumed his shuttle diplomacy, having conducted two visits to the region. He is due to continue visiting the region on several occasions during the rest of 2015.

82. In parallel with this approach, the Personal Envoy continued his consultations with members of the Group of Friends of Western Sahara to renew the support of his interlocutors for achieving results during this year. He also requested that the members of the Group join him in impressing upon the parties the need for flexibility in the search for a compromise. Interlocutors in all capitals expressed their support for the Personal Envoy's approach.

83. Building on his discussions with the members of the Group of Friends of Western Sahara, the Personal Envoy was able to convey the unanimous concern of the Group over the continued risk of increased instability and insecurity throughout the region, and the dangers linked with increased frustration in the refugee camps near Tindouf.

Planning assumptions for 2016

84. In 2016, the Personal Envoy intends to continue intensifying his shuttle diplomacy efforts between the Government of Morocco and the Polisario Front. He will also engage with the neighbouring countries of Algeria and Mauritania. Given the delays, reviving the process is crucial to achieving tangible progress in the near future. The objective is to visit the region in order to intensify efforts to find a lasting, just and mutually acceptable political solution that will provide for the self-determination of Western Sahara.

85. The Personal Envoy will also continue to hold consultations with interested Member States, both in New York and in their capitals. He will hold face-to-face negotiating sessions once the parties have demonstrated sufficient willingness to engage in serious discussions. The Personal Envoy also intends to visit Geneva to discuss the humanitarian aspect of the conflict with the relevant agencies.

86. The work of the Personal Envoy will be concluded once the parties have reached a mutually acceptable political solution that will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

87. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures of the Personal Envoy are set out below.

Table 11
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To achieve a comprehensive settlement of the question of Western Sahara	
Expected accomplishments	**Indicators of achievement**
Progress towards the comprehensive settlement of the question of Western Sahara	(i) Increased convergence among the parties on core and substantive issues

Performance measures

(Increased number of consultations between the Personal Envoy and the parties and neighbouring States in the region (shuttle diplomacy))

Actual 2014: 2

Estimate 2015: 5

Target 2016: 5

(ii) Enhanced involvement of the international community

Performance measures

(Number of consultations with and briefings to the Group of Friends of Western Sahara)

Actual 2014: 7

Estimate 2015: 10

Target 2016: 10

(iii) Enhanced implementation of confidence-building measures

Performance measures

(Review meetings for the plan of action on confidence-building measures)

Actual 2014: 1

Estimate 2015: 2

Target 2016: 2

Outputs

- Continued high-level dialogue between the parties and neighbouring States
- Informal negotiations between the parties (2)
- Political consultations with the parties and neighbouring States in the region (6)
- Political consultations with the parties and neighbouring States at Headquarters (12)
- Reports and briefings to the Security Council (2)
- Briefings and consultations with the Group of Friends of Western Sahara and with the international community (10)
- Tour of the capitals of the members of the Group of Friends of Western Sahara (2)
- Meetings with UNHCR to review and support confidence-building measures (2)
- Expanded family visits by air and increased cultural seminars led by UNHCR (2)
- Inter-Sahrawi seminars operated by UNHCR (3)

External factors

88. The objective of the good offices role of the Secretary-General, carried out largely through his Personal Envoy, is expected to be achieved, provided that the two parties are willing and committed to reaching a political solution and that the neighbouring States and the international community provide support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 12
Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*			
Category	*Appropriation* (1)	*Estimated expenditure* (2)	*Variance* (3)=(1)-(2)	*Total* (4)	*Non-recurrent* (5)	*Total requirements for 2015* (6)	*Variance 2015-2016* (7)=(4)-(6)
Civilian personnel costs	675.4	497.2	178.2	311.1	–	348.1	(37.0)
Operational costs	483.9	407.2	76.7	238.4	–	238.7	(0.3)
Total	**1 159.3**	**904.4**	**254.9**	**549.5**	**–**	**586.8**	**(37.3)**

Table 13
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2015	1[a]	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	2	–	–	2	–	–	–	2
Proposed 2016	1[a]	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	2	–	–	2	–	–	–	2
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

[a] The Under-Secretary-General is on a when-actually-employed (WAE) contract.

89. The projected unencumbered balance in 2014-2015 is attributable mainly to: (a) the vacancy of the P-3 Political Affairs Officer for eight months and the lesser number of days that the Personal Envoy worked; and (b) lower actual expenditures than budgeted for staff travel, consultancy services and other miscellaneous expenses owing to the cancellation of negotiation meetings.

90. The proposed resource requirements for 2016 for the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara amount to $549,500 (net of staff assessment) and would provide for the salaries and common staff costs for the continuation of the two positions of the Office (1 Under-Secretary-General on a when-actually-employed contract, and 1 P-3) ($311,100), as well as operational costs ($238,400) comprising consultancy services ($48,800), official travel ($137,000), facilities and

infrastructure ($16,200), communications ($3,100), information technology ($2,300) and other supplies, services and equipment ($31,000).

91. In 2016, the proposed number and level of the positions for the office of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara will remain unchanged.

92. The variance (decrease) between the proposed resources for 2016 and the approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to the lower staff costs reflecting the step in grade and dependency status of the current incumbent.

Extrabudgetary resources

93. No extrabudgetary resources were available for 2015 or are projected for 2016 for the special political mission.

E. Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004)

($624,900)

Background, mandate and objective

94. On 14 December 2004, the Secretary-General informed the Security Council that he had decided to appoint Terje Roed-Larsen as his Special Envoy for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004) in order to enable him to report to the Council every six months on the implementation of the resolution, as requested by the Council in its presidential statement of 19 October 2004 (S/PRST/2004/36). In carrying out this mandate, the Special Envoy consults with the Government of Lebanon and other interested Member States to assist the Secretary-General in the preparation of semi-annual reports to the Council on the implementation of the resolution.

95. On 17 May 2006, in response to the third semi-annual report of the Secretary-General (S/2006/248), the Security Council adopted resolution 1680 (2006), in which it reiterated its call for the full implementation of the provisions of resolution 1559 (2004), strongly encouraged the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to respond positively to the request made by the Government of Lebanon, in line with the agreements of the Lebanese national dialogue, to delineate their common border, especially in those areas where the border was uncertain or disputed, and to establish full diplomatic relations and representation, noting that such measures would constitute a significant step towards asserting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Lebanon and towards improving the relations between the two countries, thereby contributing positively to stability in the region, and urged both parties to make efforts through further bilateral dialogue to that end.

96. On 11 August 2006, the Security Council adopted resolution 1701 (2006), in which it emphasized the importance of the extension of the control of the Government of Lebanon over all Lebanese territory in accordance with the provisions of resolutions 1559 (2004) and 1680 (2006) and the relevant provisions of the Taif Accords. The Council requested the Secretary-General to develop, in liaison with relevant international actors and the concerned parties, proposals to implement the relevant provisions of the Taif Accords and Council resolutions 1559

(2004) and 1680 (2006), including with respect to disarmament and the delineation of the international borders of Lebanon, and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council on a regular basis on the implementation of resolution 1701 (2006).

97. The full implementation of resolution 1559 (2004) is a long and demanding process. Since the adoption of the resolution on 2 September 2004, many of its provisions have now been implemented as set out in the reports of the Secretary-General. Following a second postponement, parliamentary elections are now scheduled to take place in June 2017. Presidential elections, originally scheduled for 24 May 2014, have been repeatedly postponed owing to the lack of a quorum in Parliament. The Speaker of Parliament is expected to continue calling for parliamentary sessions until a quorum is achieved and a President of the Republic is elected.

98. The provision calling for the disbanding and disarming of all Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias has not yet been implemented. From September 2008 to November 2010, Lebanese leaders engaged in a national dialogue, the main mandate of which has been to develop a national defence strategy that would address the issue of weapons outside the control of the State. Following the resumption of the national dialogue in June 2012 and the adoption of a policy of disassociation by Lebanon, pursuant to the Baabda Declaration, then-President Michel Sleiman introduced a draft vision of the national defence strategy to national dialogue participants for consideration. President Sleiman reconvened the national dialogue on 31 March 2014, after the formation of Prime Minister Tamam Salam's government on 15 February 2014. President Sleiman held the last national dialogue session of his mandate on 5 May 2014. No sessions have been held since.

99. In its resolution 1680 (2006), the Security Council strongly encouraged the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to respond positively to the request by the Government of Lebanon to delineate their common border. The delineation and demarcation of the boundaries of Lebanon are an essential element for guaranteeing the country's territorial integrity, as called for by resolution 1559 (2004). During the reporting period, there have been no discussions or contacts between Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic on the delineation of their common border. At the same time, the pattern of cross-border incidents between Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic and the risk of escalation have increased since the beginning of the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic. While acknowledging the bilateral nature of border delineation and the policy of disassociation with respect to the Syrian conflict adopted by Lebanon, the evolving situation on the ground underscores the need for progress on this matter under resolution 1680 (2006), as derived from resolution 1559 (2004).

100. The President of the Security Council issued a statement on 19 March 2015 (S/PRST/2015/7) in which the Council expressed concern at the continued violation of Lebanese sovereignty and the impact of the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic in all of its aspects: economic, humanitarian and security-related. In his statement, the President of the Security Council stressed the importance for all Lebanese elements to respect the policy of disassociation and commitment to the Baabda Declaration. He encouraged all Lebanese parties to demonstrate unity in protecting Lebanon from violence and conflict.

Cooperation with other entities

101. The Special Envoy coordinates and works closely with the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon. Furthermore, the Special Coordinator, ESCWA, UNDP and the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process provide logistical support for the visits of the Special Envoy to the Middle East.

Performance information

102. There has been no further progress towards the implementation of the remaining provisions of resolution 1559 (2004), in particular in the context of regional instability and a fluid domestic political context. Stagnation in the implementation process could lead to the erosion of the provisions already implemented and challenge the implementation of outstanding provisions. The Secretary-General will continue to deploy every effort to encourage further progress, in the best interests of regional peace and security.

Planning assumptions for 2016

103. The remaining provisions of the resolution to be implemented are the most difficult and sensitive, namely, the disbanding and disarming of Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias, the extension of the control of the Government of Lebanon over all its territory, and strict respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon. In 2016, against the backdrop of the continued turmoil in the region, the Secretary-General intends to continue his efforts to encourage the relevant parties to make further progress towards the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004), in the best interests of stability in the region.

104. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures of the Office of the Special Envoy are set out below.

Table 14
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To implement fully Security Council resolution 1559 (2004) and all subsequent related decisions of the Council

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Facilitation of strict respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and political independence of Lebanon under the sole and exclusive authority of the Government of Lebanon throughout its territory	(a) (i) Absence of land, air and sea violations *Performance measures* Actual 2014: violations occurred Estimate 2015: violations occurred Target 2016: absence of violations

		(ii) Number of interactions with relevant parties to reduce violations and ultimately bring them to zero *Performance measures* (Number of interactions with relevant parties) Actual 2014: 33 Estimate 2015: 34 Target 2016: 35
		(iii) Facilitation of increased extension of the authority of the Government of Lebanon throughout Lebanese territory, in particular along its borders *Performance measures* (Number of interactions with relevant parties) Actual 2014: 33 Estimate 2015: 34 Target 2016: 35
		(iv) Withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon *Performance measures* Actual 2014: Incomplete Estimate 2015: Incomplete Target 2016: Complete
(b) Facilitation of the disbanding and disarmament of all Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias	(b)	(i) Increased accession by the Government of Lebanon to the right to exercise a monopoly on the use of force throughout its territory *Performance measures* (Number of interactions with relevant parties) Actual 2014: 33 Estimate 2015: 34 Target 2016: 35
		(ii) Support by the Special Envoy so that no individual or groups other than the official armed forces carry arms, taking into account the regular sessions of the national dialogue

	Performance measures (Number of interactions with relevant parties) Actual 2014: 33 Estimate 2015: 34 Target 2016: 35
	(iii) Support by the Special Envoy for the disbanding and disarmament of all Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias operating in Lebanon, taking into account the convening of the national dialogue, while upholding the previous dialogue decisions with respect to Palestinian arms within and outside the camps *Performance measures* (Number of interactions with relevant parties) Actual 2014: 33 Estimate 2015: 34 Target 2016: 35
(c) Facilitation of a strengthened response by all Member States for the implementation of the remaining provisions of Security Council resolution 1680 (2006)	(c) Encouragement by the Special Envoy for increased efforts to implement the remaining provisions of Security Council resolution 1680 (2006), taking into account significant progress made in this respect *Performance measures* (Number of interactions with relevant parties) Actual 2014: 33 Estimate 2015: 34 Target 2016: 35

Outputs

- Regular interactions of the Special Envoy with representatives of the Government of Lebanon and other interested Governments to advance the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004) (35)
- Regular interactions with the Government of Lebanon in support of the Lebanese national dialogue related to the disbanding and disarmament of Lebanese militias (35)
- Regular interactions with the Palestine Liberation Organization/Palestinian Authority and good offices between the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Lebanon to facilitate dialogue between the Palestine Liberation Organization/Palestinian Authority and the Government of Lebanon on the disbanding and disarmament of Palestinian militias (10)

- The provision of good offices and consultations with all foreign Governments that might have influence on the Lebanese and non-Lebanese militias in Lebanon to assist in implementing the requirements of relevant Security Council resolutions in a peaceful manner (32)
- Reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council (2)

External factors

105. The objective of the Special Envoy would be achieved on the assumption that: (a) there is political stability and security in Lebanon; (b) hostilities in the region and in the country are not resumed; (c) there is political goodwill on the part of the parties concerned; (d) the political goodwill of Member States has a positive influence on the parties concerned; and (e) there are no tensions between Lebanon and other States in the region.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 15
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*			
	Appropriation	*Estimated expenditure*	*Variance*	*Total*	*Non-recurrent*	*Total requirements for 2015*	*Variance 2015-2016*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)=(1)-(2)*	*(4)*	*(5)*	*(6)*	*(7)=(4)-(6)*
Civilian personnel costs	560.1	601.8	(41.7)	284.2	–	278.6	5.6
Operational costs	674.2	375.9	298.3	340.7	–	375.7	(35.0)
Total	**1 234.3**	**977.7**	**256.6**	**624.9**	**–**	**654.3**	**(29.4)**

Table 16
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2015	1[a]	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	2	–	1	3	–	–	–	3
Proposed 2016	1[a]	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	2	–	1	3	–	–	–	3
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

[a] The Under-Secretary-General is on a $1-per-year contract.

106. The anticipated unencumbered balance in 2014-2015 is attributable mainly to fewer trips undertaken than planned due to the security situation in the region, as well as to lower actual communication expenses, offset in part by higher-than-budgeted staff costs reflecting the actual expenditures.

107. Resource requirements for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 for the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004) amount to $624,900 (net of staff assessment) and would provide for salaries and common staff costs for the continuation of the three positions (1 Under-Secretary-General (on a $1-per-year contract), 1 P-4, 1 General Service (Other level)) ($284,200), as well as operational costs ($340,700) comprising official travel ($264,500), facilities and infrastructure ($51,600), ground transportation ($3,000), communications ($13,600), information technology ($4,000) and other supplies, services and equipment ($4,000).

108. In 2016, there will be no change to the proposed number and level of the positions for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004).

109. The variance (decrease) between the proposed resources for 2016 and the approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to fewer number of trips anticipated, offset in part by increased staff costs reflecting the actual step in grade and dependency status of current incumbents. It is assumed that, unlike in 2015, the security conditions in the region would allow the office to undertake the official travel as planned for 2016.

Extrabudgetary resources

110. No extrabudgetary resources were available for 2015 or are projected for 2016 for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004).

F. United Nations Representative to the Geneva International Discussions

($2,034,400)

Background, mandate and objective

111. Following the non-extension of the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia in June 2009, the United Nations has continued to support the Geneva international discussions on security and stability and the return of internally displaced persons and refugees, which commenced on 15 October 2008 in Geneva in accordance with the six-point agreement of 12 August 2008 and implementing measures of 8 September 2008, mediated by the French Presidency of the European Union following the hostilities of August 2008 (see S/2009/254, para. 5). In resolution 1866 (2009), the Security Council welcomed the beginning of the discussions and requested the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative, to continue to fully support the process. The discussions, of which 32 rounds have been held to date, most recently on 1 July 2015, are co-chaired by the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations.

112. Against the background of the "Proposals for joint incident prevention and response mechanisms" agreed to in Geneva on 18 February 2009, the Secretary-General, on 28 September 2009, addressed a letter to the President of the Security Council in which he updated the members of the Council on the progress in the Geneva international discussions and the convening of the Joint Incident Prevention

and Response Mechanism (IPRM) under the United Nations auspices in Gali (see S/2009/254, paras. 5 and 6). The Secretary-General also stated that, following consultations with the relevant stakeholders, the United Nations would continue to support the Geneva international discussions and IPRM through a limited number of personnel with the task of facilitating the United Nations participation in the international discussions in Geneva and in IPRM, and liaising and coordinating with the relevant actors. He stated that these personnel would be based in Geneva and would spend as much time as required on the ground in order to perform these functions. The Secretary-General addressed a letter on this matter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on 29 September 2009, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia replied to the Secretary-General on 28 October 2009. Contacts and communications on this matter were conducted without prejudice to the respective positions of the participants in the ongoing Geneva discussions.

113. In a letter to the President of the Security Council dated 28 December 2009, the Secretary-General noted that, given the important role of the Geneva international discussions and IPRM in stabilizing the situation and building confidence, and in the light of the broad support, including from the main stakeholders, for a continued and effective United Nations engagement beyond 31 December 2009, the United Nations would continue to provide support to the Geneva international discussions and the work of IPRM. In a letter dated 25 February 2010 (S/2010/103), the Secretary-General informed the President of the Council that, following consultations, it was his intention to appoint Antti Turunen of Finland as the United Nations representative responsible for United Nations support to the Geneva international discussions and IPRM. In a letter dated 2 May 2011 (S/2011/279), the President of the Security Council informed the Secretary-General that the members of the Council took note of his intention and of the information contained in his letter of 25 February 2010.

114. The United Nations Representative and his team are responsible for preparing, in consultation with the co-chairs, the sessions of the Geneva international discussions. They are also responsible for preparing, convening and facilitating the periodic meetings of IPRM. With regard to the latter, the team maintains a hotline to facilitate timely communication and exchange of information among the parties on any issues of mutual concern.

115. The United Nations Representative and the team will continue to maintain an office in Geneva on the premises of the United Nations Office at Geneva on a reimbursable basis. The team members would regularly travel to the field to liaise with the relevant actors in preparation for and follow-up to the discussions in IPRM. The team will continue to be co-located and logistically backstopped by UNDP and UNHCR.

Future outlook

116. The role of the United Nations Representative is expected to continue for the duration of the United Nations involvement in the Geneva international discussions and IPRMs. There continues to be support among the principal stakeholders for the discussions in Geneva and the IPRM meetings, as well as for the continued engagement of the United Nations. The role of the United Nations will be reviewed depending on future developments with regard to the Geneva discussions and/or IPRMs and the views of the key stakeholders.

Cooperation with other entities

117. The United Nations Representative and his staff will liaise with other United Nations agencies, programmes and funds, such as the office of the Resident Coordinator, UNDP, UNHCR and other actors, in particular with respect to coordinating the role and contribution of the United Nations in the framework of the Geneva international discussions and IPRM.

118. The mission continues to manage the task assigned to it. It is supported by the Department of Field Support for personnel management, budgetary and financial management, processing travel requests and other administrative activities.

Performance information

119. In close cooperation with its partners (the European Union and OSCE), the mission organized two rounds of Geneva discussions, in March and July 2015. All participants have expressed their full commitment to the process and are expected to participate in two more sessions, in October and December 2015.

120. On 1 July 2015, the United Nations and the co-chairing organizations (the European Union and OSCE) co-chaired the thirty-second round of the Geneva international discussions. Despite the complex issues under deliberation, the three co-chairs managed to keep all the participants engaged and to reconfirm their commitment to the Geneva discussions. To allow for more informed debates, special "information sessions" have been conducted in conjunction with the formal Geneva sessions, and on one occasion in the context of the IPRM meetings in Gali before its suspension. Those sessions, co-facilitated by the United Nations, the European Union and OSCE, have helped to enrich the formal meetings of the Geneva international discussions.

121. The last IPRM meeting took place on 23 March 2012 and has remained suspended since then. The mission continues its engagement with the key stakeholders in an effort to: (a) keep channels of communication open; (b) engage in incident prevention; and (c) address any reported incidents and find a mutually acceptable solution in order to resume the IPRM meetings. Despite the increased engagement on the ground of the mission with all stakeholders, which has led to a significant reduction in the number of incidents on the ground, the resumption of the Gali IPRM meetings remains a matter of priority. Until participants reach agreement to resume IPRM meetings, the mission will continue its engagement in improving cooperation between the key stakeholders to prevent and respond to incidents on the ground.

Planning assumptions for 2016

122. It is expected that the Geneva international discussions will continue to be convened regularly as planned and the Gali IPRM will be resumed, requiring substantive and technical support from the United Nations. Both will remain the essential platforms for dealing with the issues of concern for all stakeholders involved. The situation on the ground is also likely to continue to warrant international involvement and support in preventing instability and facilitating regular contact and exchange of information among the parties.

123. The Geneva international discussions will continue to be convened once every two and a half or three months. In preparation for these discussions, the United

Nations Representative will be expected to take part in preparatory visits by the co-chairs (the European Union, OSCE and the United Nations). It is also expected that the Gali IPRM will be resumed and likely be convened once every four weeks, on average — with possible emergency meetings convened by the United Nations Representative. The United Nations Representative to the Geneva discussions remains ready to contribute to the prevention or clarification of any incident of concern in the area of responsibility through the good services offered to the IPRM participants.

124. The effective discharge of these activities will require international staff to support the United Nations Representative, liaise with all relevant actors and manage the day-to-day activities related to the Geneva discussions and IPRM. The staff will have an official base in Geneva and travel regularly to the field to prepare and conduct the Geneva discussions and IPRM meetings and liaise with relevant actors.

125. The United Nations Representative and his team will coordinate with other United Nations actors, such as the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Georgia, UNDP, UNHCR and OHCHR, to ensure an integrated United Nations approach to humanitarian issues being addressed in the Geneva discussions and IPRM. The United Nations Representative and his staff will also maintain close contact with the European Union and its monitoring mission and OSCE officials.

126. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures for the mission are set out below.

Table 17
Objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To promote mutual understanding and dialogue among the key stakeholders of the Geneva international discussions and the Joint Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism	
Expected accomplishments	**Indicators of achievement**
(a) Progress on the key agenda issues in Working Group I (on security and stability) and Working Group II (on humanitarian matters) of the Geneva international discussions	(a) Continued engagement of participants in the Geneva discussions in Working Groups I and II *Performance measures* (Number of sessions of the Geneva discussions) Actual 2014: 4 Estimate 2015: 4 Target 2016: 4

Outputs

- Consultations by the United Nations Representative with the participants of the Geneva discussions (10)
- Joint visits by the co-chairs of the Geneva discussions in preparation for the sessions of the Geneva discussions (5)
- Preparation of thematic non-papers by the co-chairs (2)

- Preparation of information sessions on specific issues of the agenda for the participants (4)
- Preparation of the press communiqué of the co-chairs issued after each round of the Geneva discussions (4)
- Press conference held after each round of the Geneva discussions (4)
- Preparation of reports on the co-chairs' consultations and progress on Geneva discussions (4)
- Periodic spot reports (4)

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(b) Improved cooperation between the IPRM participants to prevent and respond to incidents on the ground	(b) (i) Number of IPRM meetings conducted *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 0 Estimate 2015: 4 Target 2016: 12 (ii) Number of incidents addressed through IPRM or through the good offices of the United Nations Representative to the Geneva International Discussions (UNRGID) *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 25 Estimate 2015: 20 Target 2016: 20 (iii) Number of humanitarian-related issues addressed by UNRGID *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 0 Estimate 2015: 0 Target 2016: 12

Outputs

- Agendas for the IPRM meetings prepared on the basis of the suggestions of IPRM participants (12)
- Press releases (12) and summary conclusions (12) of the Chair issued following each IPRM meeting
- Internal notes to the files on each IPRM meeting (12)
- Briefings to the international and diplomatic community representatives on the ground (12)
- Regular use of the hotline (at least 5 phone calls per week to exchange information)
- Weekly security situation reports (52)
- Weekly humanitarian-related reports (52)

External factors

127. The objective would be achieved on the assumption that: (a) the participants in the Geneva discussions and IPRM continue to engage in their respective processes; and (b) the expected submissions from the participants in the sessions of the Geneva discussions and IPRM meetings are received in full and on time.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 18
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*			
	Appropriation	*Estimated expenditure*	*Variance*	*Total*	*Non-recurrent*	*Total requirements for 2015*	*Variance 2015-2016*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)=(1)-(2)*	*(4)*	*(5)*	*(6)*	*(7)=(4)-(6)*
Civilian personnel costs	2 872.6	2 811.8	60.8	1 438.6	–	1 454.6	(16.0)
Operational costs	1 277.7	1 204.6	73.1	595.8	–	588.0	7.8
Total	**4 150.3**	**4 016.4**	**133.9**	**2 034.4**	**–**	**2 042.6**	**(8.2)**

Table 19
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2015	–	1	–	–	1	2	2	–	6	–	1	7	–	–	–	7
Proposed 2016	–	1	–	–	1	2	2	–	6	–	1	7	–	–	–	7
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

128. The anticipated unencumbered balance in 2014-2015 is attributable mainly to: (a) a higher vacancy rate than budgeted; (b) the decrease in official travel owing to vacancies; (c) the delayed move to new rented space than originally planned; and (d) lower expenditure as a result of the use of some spare equipment and information technology services available at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

129. Resource requirements for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 amount to $2,034,400 (net of staff assessment) and provides for salaries and common staff costs for seven international staff based in Geneva (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3 and 1 General Service (Other level)) ($1,438,600) as well as operational costs ($595,800), including official travel ($341,000), facilities and infrastructure ($81,100), ground transportation ($39,100), communications ($39,700), information technology ($22,800) and other supplies, services and equipment services ($72,100).

130. In 2016, it is proposed to abolish the position of the Police Adviser (P-4) and to establish the position of a Humanitarian/Civil Affairs Officer at the P-4 level to enable the mission to shift its focus from supporting the working group on security and stability matters, which has significantly improved, to providing enhanced support to the working group that deals with humanitarian matters.

131. The variance (decrease) between the proposed resources for 2016 and approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to the decrease in the salaries and common staff costs based on the step in grade and dependency status of current incumbents, offset in part by a net increase of $7,800 under operational costs.

Extrabudgetary resources

132. No extrabudgetary resources were available in 2015 or are projected for UNRGID for 2016.

G. Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria

($12,211,600)

Background, mandate and objective

133. The Security Council issued a presidential statement on 3 August 2011 (S/PRST/2011/16), expressing concern at the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and stressing that the only solution to the crisis would be through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process. On 16 February 2012, the General Assembly, in its resolution 66/253, requested the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to provide support to the League of Arab States, including through the appointment of a Special Envoy, in consultation with the League of Arab States. On 23 February 2012, the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the League of Arab States appointed Kofi Annan as their Joint Special Envoy.

134. On 21 March 2012, the Security Council endorsed a six-point plan (see S/PRST/2012/6). Pursuant to this plan, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the armed opposition forces broadly adhered to a cessation of violence by 12 April 2012, diminishing violence significantly for approximately five weeks. In its resolution 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012, the Council authorized an advance team of up to 30 unarmed military observers to liaise with the parties and to report on the implementation of a full cessation of armed violence. In its resolution 2043 (2012) of 21 April, the Council decided to establish for an initial period of 90 days a United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic (UNSMIS).

135. Under the auspices of the Joint Special Envoy, the members of the Action Group for Syria (China, France, the Russian Federation, Turkey, and the United States of America), as well as Iraq, Kuwait and Qatar representing relevant organs of the League of Arab States, adopted a communiqué on 30 June 2012 (S/2012/523), the Geneva communiqué, that set steps and measures to be taken by the parties to secure the full implementation of the six-point plan and Security Council resolutions 2042 (2012) and 2043 (2012), including an immediate cessation of violence; principles and guidelines for a political transition that would meet the aspirations of the Syrian people; and actions that they would take to implement these objectives in support of the Envoy's efforts to facilitate a Syrian-led political process.

136. On 20 July 2012, the Security Council extended the mandate of UNSMIS by a final 30-day period, and expressed in its resolution 2059 (2012) its willingness to renew the mandate of UNSMIS. However, owing to the increased violence, the mandate of UNSMIS was not renewed, leading to its liquidation on 19 August 2012.

137. On 2 August 2012, the Joint Special Envoy informed the Secretary-General of his intention not to renew his mandate when it expired on 31 August 2012. On 3 August 2012, by its resolution 66/253 B, the General Assembly reaffirmed its support to the Joint Special Envoy and demanded that all Syrian parties work with his office to implement the Geneva communiqué. In that context, on 17 August 2012, Lakhdar Brahimi was appointed as the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and League of Arab States for Syria with effect from 1 September 2012.

138. Against the background of a deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Joint Special Representative held consultations with various stakeholders. Starting with a meeting on 6 December 2012 with Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov of the Russian Federation and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton of the United States in Ireland, the Joint Special Representative held several trilateral meetings. On 7 May 2013, Foreign Minister Lavrov and Secretary of State John Kerry of the United States called for the convening of an international conference on the Syrian Arab Republic, to include the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the opposition with a view to reaching agreement on the full implementation of the Geneva communiqué.

139. This was followed by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 67/262 on 15 May 2013, and Security Council resolution 2118 (2013) on 27 September 2013 in which the Council unanimously endorsed the Geneva communiqué and called for the convening, as soon as possible, of an international conference on Syria to implement the Geneva communiqué.

140. On 22 January 2014, a one-day high-level segment commenced in Montreux, Switzerland, which was followed by the first and second rounds of the intra-Syrian talks in Geneva facilitated by the Joint Special Representative from 24 to 31 January and from 10 to 15 February 2014, respectively. At the conclusion of the second round, the Joint Special Representative informed the Secretary-General that, in his estimation, it would be unproductive to convene a third round of intra-Syrian talks unless a number of conditions were met.

141. On 22 February 2014, the Security Council adopted resolution 2139 (2014), in which it emphasized that the humanitarian situation would continue to deteriorate in the absence of a political solution, and welcomed the Geneva Conference on Syria launched in Montreux on 22 January 2014.

142. Joint Special Representative Brahimi relinquished his duties effective 31 May 2014. On 3 June 2014, Syrian presidential elections were held and President Assad was re-elected under an amended constitution by direct vote for a seven-year term. In the light of these developments, the Secretary-General engaged in intensive consultations on ways the United Nations could support a political process in the Syrian Arab Republic, which were reflected in his speech to the Asia Society delivered on 20 June 2014.

143. On 10 July 2014, the Secretary-General appointed Staffan de Mistura as his Special Envoy for Syria, to assume the post on 1 September 2014. The task of the

Special Envoy was to look for any openings for launching a serious political process and to undertake initiatives to protect civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic. Immediately upon assumption of his duty, the Special Envoy travelled to Damascus and to regional and international capitals for consultations.

144. Following his briefing to the Security Council on 30 October 2014, the Special Envoy proposed the establishment of "freeze zones", starting in Aleppo. The Security Council press statement expressed support for the efforts of the Special Envoy and reiterated that the only sustainable solution to the current crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic was through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process with a view to full implementation of the Geneva communiqué. In his briefing to the Council on 17 February 2015, the Special Envoy announced that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic had committed to suspending all aerial bombardment over the entire city of Aleppo for a period of six weeks to allow the delivery of humanitarian assistance, with a pilot project to restore public services in the Salaheddin neighbourhood. As at the writing of the present report, the start of the freeze had not been announced owing to a lack of agreement to the cessation of bombing by all sides involved in fighting on the ground.

145. In his address to the Summit of the League of Arab States on 29 March 2015, the Secretary-General announced his instruction to the Special Envoy to intensify consultations with a view to operationalizing and fleshing out elements in the Geneva communiqué. On 5 May 2015, the Special Envoy launched a series of consultations in Geneva, which aimed to consult with as many Syrian interlocutors as possible from across all divides, along with regional and international stakeholders, to help identify points of convergence among interlocutors that could allow the launch of a serious political process based on the Geneva communiqué, with the aim of ending the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Cooperation with other entities

146. Substantive and administrative support for the Office of the Special Envoy is provided by the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Field Support. In the implementation of the good offices mandate, the Special Envoy and his Office will continue to consult and coordinate closely with the Department of Political Affairs, the relevant peacekeeping and special political missions in the region and, when appropriate, with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OHCHR and UNHCR. Cooperation will continue with the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations operating in the Syrian Arab Republic and the region and with the United Nations country team through the Office of the Special Envoy in Damascus. In addition, agencies working in the Syrian Arab Republic are represented within the headquarters of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Syrian Crisis, which ensures the coordination and coherence of United Nations political, humanitarian, human rights and other efforts in the Syrian Arab Republic.

147. In incorporating the principles of the global field support strategy, the Office of the Special Envoy will continue to leverage the existing logistical and administrative capacity of the Global Service Centre in Brindisi, Italy, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force. The Office has also established a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations Office at Geneva for the provision of support and coordination in

Geneva on a cost-reimbursable basis. Similarly, a memorandum of understanding has been established with UNDP to support the Office in Brussels, including the related security services.

Performance information

148. Accomplishments for the period from January to June 2015 reflect steps towards ending the violence, reducing the suffering of Syrians and reaching a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic. This included the ongoing negotiations with the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and members of both political and armed opposition groups on launching the Aleppo freeze initiative and strategically reducing the level of violence, increasing access to humanitarian assistance and serving as an incremental building block towards an overarching political solution. On 5 May, the Special Envoy launched a series of consultations in Geneva with Syrian, regional and international interlocutors to identify points of convergence among them on issues related to the operationalization of the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012. As at the writing of the present report, the consultations were ongoing.

Planning assumptions for 2016

149. The broad activities of the Special Envoy in 2016 are expected to be as follows:

(a) To use good offices to promote and support a political solution to the war by facilitating a Syrian-led peaceful political solution to the Syrian crisis. To that end, the Special Envoy will consult broadly and engage with domestic and international stakeholders, including neighbouring States and other Governments with interest in or influence on the Syrian parties, the Syrian authorities, opposition and armed groups and key civil society organizations. In consultation with the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the Special Envoy will advise the Secretary-General on the political process to help resolve the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic;

(b) To work with all relevant peacekeeping and special political missions and entities of the United Nations, agencies, funds and programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, as well as other organizations (e.g., the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent) to endeavour to end the violence, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance and promote a political solution. The Special Envoy will facilitate and support the efforts of the United Nations country team in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular through the Office of the Special Envoy in Damascus;

(c) To continue activities within the framework of the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012 and build on the outcomes of the first and second Geneva conferences on Syria held in 2012 and 2014, respectively, as well as on the in-depth consultations in Geneva in May, June and July 2015 with wide-ranging Syrian and non-Syrian stakeholders towards operationalizing and fleshing out elements in the Geneva communiqué and identifying a road map for a Syrian-led political resolution to the Syrian crisis;

(d) To brief the Security Council and/or the General Assembly, as appropriate.

150. The objective, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement are set out below.

Table 20
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To achieve through peaceful and inclusive means a Syrian-led political solution to the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, which will meet the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people to dignity, freedom and justice, based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Progress towards cessation of violence and achievement of a comprehensive political solution to the conflict	(a) Increased number of ceasefires/local agreements that lead to cessation of hostilities between the Syrian parties and meet international human rights norms *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 5 Estimate 2015: 15 Target 2016: 20
(b) Conduct of an inclusive Syrian-led political process in a safe environment that provides for a political transition and aims at effectively addressing the legitimate aspirations and concerns of the Syrian people	(b) (i) Increased engagement of representatives of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the whole spectrum of Syrian opposition groups in a credible and comprehensive political process, except those listed terrorist groups operating in the Syrian Arab Republic *Performance measures* Number of meetings: Actual 2014: 30 Estimate 2015: 150 Target 2016: 100 (ii) Road map or agreement is reached on a solution that meets the legitimate will and aspirations of the Syrian people and ensures full respect for their fundamental rights *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 0 Estimate 2015: 1 Target 2016: 1
(c) Progress towards improvement of the human rights situation	(c) Increased number of consultations with the Syrian parties to facilitate the release of detainees and prisoners related to events since March 2011 *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 40 Estimate 2015: 50 Target 2016: 50

(d) Improved access for humanitarian assistance to people in need	(d) Increased percentage of people in need reached by international humanitarian assistance *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 80 per cent Estimate 2015: 74 per cent Target 2016: 100 per cent

Outputs

- Provision of good offices and organization of consultations and negotiations with all concerned internal, regional and international parties aimed at finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis, as well as facilitation of direct and indirect meetings between representatives of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the whole spectrum of Syrian opposition groups and civil society organizations, including women's groups, to reach an agreement to end the conflict and put forward a political solution acceptable to all concerned (100)
- Support to the Syrian parties in negotiation and implementation of local ceasefire arrangements (20)
- Regular visits to the Syrian Arab Republic and other countries to promote a political solution to the Syrian crisis (30), including regular field visits inside the country to different areas including besieged areas and areas concerned with the establishment and implementation of local agreements (20)
- Training workshops on negotiation processes for relevant stakeholders (4)
- Regular briefings to the Security Council, General Assembly and other relevant United Nations bodies, as well as the League of Arab States and other regional organizations and the diplomatic community, on the political and security situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and the efforts of the Special Envoy (8)
- Public awareness-raising initiatives, including public statements stressing the importance of political dialogue, an end to violence and human rights violations and humanitarian access (12)
- Advocacy support to United Nations humanitarian agencies in their efforts to deliver aid to the people in need in the Syrian Arab Republic

External factors

151. The objective would be achieved on the assumption that all domestic, regional and international stakeholders will cooperate with the Special Envoy.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 21
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*			
	Appropriation	*Estimated expenditure*	*Variance*	*Total*	*Non-recurrent*	*Approved budget 2015*	*Variance 2015-2016*
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)=(1)-(2)*	*(4)*	*(5)*	*(6)*	*(7)=(4)-(6)*
Civilian personnel costs	13 537.1	12 880.5	656.6	8 278.0	–	7 005.5	1 272.5
Operational costs	7 991.6	8 573.1	(581.5)	3 933.6	99.5	3 872.2	61.4
Total	**21 528.7**	**21 453.6**	**75.1**	**12 211.6**	**99.5**	**10 877.7**	**1 333.9**

Table 22
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2015	1	1	1	2	6	9	9	–	**29**	13	9	**51**	–	29	–	**80**
Proposed 2016	1	1	1	2	6	11	7	–	**29**	13	9	**51**	–	29	–	**80**
Change	–	–	–	–	–	**2**	**(2)**	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

152. The projected unencumbered balance for 2014-2015 is attributable primarily to the decrease reflecting the actual staff costs based on the step in grade and dependency status of the current incumbents, offset in part by an increase in rental costs.

153. The estimated requirements for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria for 2016 amount to $12,211,600 (net of staff assessment) and provide for civilian personnel costs ($8,278,000) for 80 positions (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 D-2, 2 D-1, 6 P-5, 11 P-4, 7 P-3, 13 Field Service, 9 General Service (Other level) and 29 Local level), as well as operational costs ($3,933,600) comprising consultants ($200,000), official travel ($969,900), facilities and infrastructure ($1,723,000), ground transportation ($288,400), communications ($354,800), information technology ($156,500) and other supplies, services and equipment ($241,000).

154. The proposed number of positions for the Office of the Special Envoy for 2016 would remain at 80. The substantive component of the mission would comprise 32 positions, of which (a) 2 would be based in Brussels (1 Under-Secretary-General and 1 P-4 Special Assistant); (b) 14 would be based in Geneva (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 2 D-1, 2 P-5, 3 P-4, 2 P-3 and 4 General Service (Other level)); (c) 13 would be based in Damascus (1 D-2, 2 P-5, 4 P-4, 3 P-3, 1 Field Service and 2 Local level); and (d) 3 would be based in New York (1 P-5, 1 P-4 and 1 General Service (Other level)).

155. The support component would comprise 13 positions, of which (a) 5 would be based in Geneva (1 P-5, 4 General Service (Other Level)); and (b) 8 would be based in Damascus (1 P-4, 4 Field Service and 3 Local level).

156. The security component would comprise 35 positions, all of which would be based in Damascus (1 P-4, 2 P-3, 8 Field Service and 24 Local level).

157. The following staffing changes are proposed for 2016:

(a) To abolish the P-5 position of Spokesperson in Geneva in lieu of a new P-5 position of Senior Political Affairs Officer to augment the substantive capacity in Geneva, commensurate with the level of responsibilities, in order to enable the broadening of outreach and contacts with Syrian interlocutors, relevant international organizations and think tanks. In the context of its diplomatic engagement and as part of a more systematic effort to broaden its outreach and contacts with a greater diversity of Syrian interlocutors, relevant international organizations such as the

European Union and numerous international and regional think tanks producing useful analytical work, the Office of the Special Envoy requires the proposed P-5 Senior Political Affairs Officer in order to, in particular, effectively engage with a growing number of Syrian civil society organizations, as well as develop and maintain constructive relations with the European Union and its various functional bodies (the European External Action Service, the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department, the European Council and the European Parliament);

(b) To redeploy the P-4 position of Public Information Officer from Damascus to Geneva. With the increasing political engagement in Geneva envisaged in 2016, including with the establishment of the working groups, the Special Envoy will require timely support in issuing press statements, liaising with the regional and international press and monitoring media;

(c) To redeploy the P-4 Special Assistant to the Special Envoy position from Geneva to Brussels, in order to ensure continuous and regular support to the Special Envoy in Brussels;

(d) To reclassify two P-3 Military Adviser positions from the P-3 to the P-4 level. The pace and the complexity of local ceasefires and agreements on local cessations of hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic has been growing steadily during the period 2014-2015, with a projected further increase in 2016, as witnessed in recent months on the ground. As reflected in the results-based framework, there were five new such agreements reached in 2014 with the Office's engagement, another 15 estimated for 2015 and an additional 20 targeted for 2016. With the heightened engagement of the Office in such activities, the functions of the two Military Advisers who are being called upon to assist by the various parties to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic require a greater level of military expertise and experience and stronger mediation and negotiation skills in ceasefire agreements; the ability to build confidence among the parties; and an intricate knowledge and understanding of the conflict itself. This is over and above the liaison and reporting functions that were being performed in earlier periods and therefore require relevant expertise at a higher and more senior level.

158. The variance (increase) between the proposed resources for 2016 and the approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to the application of a lower vacancy rate for 2016 than that approved in 2015.

Extrabudgetary resources

159. In 2015, extrabudgetary resources estimated at $500,000 were utilized to support the consultations in Geneva undertaken by the Special Envoy, which included meetings with more than 70 Syrian entities as well as key regional and international stakeholders. In 2016, the work of the Office of the Special Envoy will be supported through the trust fund in support of the Department of Political Affairs, which will provide additional funds to cover unforeseen or expanded activities during the course of the year. In particular, the trust fund would provide support for meetings between international and regional stakeholders, meetings of domestic Syrian representatives and the work of consultants. Extrabudgetary resources in the amount of $1,000,000 are expected for 2016. At present, there are no extrabudgetary positions providing support to the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria.

H. Office of the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan

($1,412,700)

Background, mandate and objective

160. The Office of the Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan was established in July 2011 through an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2011/474 and S/2011/475). The Office supports the establishment and maintenance of good and peaceful neighbourly relations between the Sudan and South Sudan through a good offices role on behalf of the Secretary-General. This includes cooperating with the African Union High-level Implementation Panel in efforts to implement Security Council resolution 2046 (2012), in which the Council called upon the Sudan and South Sudan to reach agreement on critical issues, including: (a) modalities for implementing provisions under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that remain outstanding and (b) key post-separation arrangements critical for the establishment of good neighbourly relations between the parties.

161. On 27 September 2012, the Governments of the Sudan and South Sudan signed nine agreements in Addis Ababa brokered by the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, and closely supported by the Office of the Special Envoy. In the overall Cooperation Agreement, the parties recommitted to the overriding principle of establishing the Sudan and South Sudan as two viable neighbouring States cooperating with each other for that purpose. The eight additional agreements covered arrangements on oil, trade, banking, certain economic matters, pensions, border issues, the status of nationals in each other's countries and security arrangements.

162. While the mechanisms envisaged in the agreements have been activated, little progress has been made in implementing their key aspects and utilizing the agreed-upon mechanisms to address outstanding issues. The disagreement between the two Governments over the coordinates of the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone centre-line and the trading of accusations between them of support to respective rebel groups continue to impede progress in achieving a secure and stable environment along the contested border.

163. Furthermore, despite rigorous engagement and shuttle diplomacy between both Governments, no progress has been achieved on the temporary arrangements in the Abyei area and its final status. With regard to the continuing conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States of the Sudan, the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, closely supported by the Office of the Special Envoy, facilitated five rounds of negotiations between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North in 2014. The parties achieved significant progress; notably, they agreed on important parts of a draft framework agreement. However, the parties were unable to conclude negotiations owing to differences on issues of principle, including a demand by the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North to ensure a link to concurrent negotiations between the Government and the Darfur armed movements on the cessation of hostilities in Darfur. The latter were also facilitated by the High-level Implementation Panel, in cooperation with the African Union-United Nations Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and the Office of the Special Envoy, in November and December 2014. They were

suspended when disagreements over the agenda could not be resolved between the Government of the Sudan and the Darfur armed movements.

164. The internal conflicts within both countries continue to absorb the attention of both Governments and have hampered progress in their bilateral relations. The Office of the Special Envoy therefore continued its efforts, in collaboration with the African Union High-level Implementation Panel and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), to help the Sudan and South Sudan address their internal situations. These efforts included: (a) encouraging the preparations for a national dialogue in the Sudan and (b) increasing efforts to seek a peaceful resolution to the crisis in South Sudan.

165. The call for a national dialogue in the Sudan was made by President Al-Bashir in January 2014. Subsequently, a preparatory committee comprising representatives of both the Government and opposition political parties developed and adopted a road map for the national dialogue in August 2014. On 6 September 2014, facilitated by the African Union High-level Implementation Panel and the Office of the Special Envoy, representatives of the national dialogue preparatory committee and the armed movements signed an agreement on conditions for, and steps towards, the national dialogue. However, further preparations for the launch of the national dialogue stalled owing to the absence of a conducive environment for an inclusive and credible national dialogue and because of the decision by the Government to move ahead with the holding of elections in April 2015 despite the condemnation by all opposition stakeholders.

166. In South Sudan, IGAD continued to facilitate talks towards a political settlement of the conflict. On 23 January 2014, the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities between the Government of the Republic of South Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (in Opposition) was signed. Fighting on the ground has nevertheless continued. Subsequent to the agreement, the mediation team focused on brokering a power-sharing agreement between the President of South Sudan and the leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (in Opposition) as a basis for a comprehensive settlement of the conflict.

Cooperation with other entities

167. At the request of the parties, and in accordance with Security Council resolution 2046 (2012), the negotiation process between the Sudan and South Sudan continues to be facilitated by the African Union High-level Implementation Panel. Under the leadership of IGAD, the Office of the Special Envoy will continue to coordinate efforts with IGAD, the African Union and other partners in mediating between the conflicting parties in South Sudan.

168. The Special Envoy will work in close collaboration and coordination with the Heads of Mission of UNAMID, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), as well as with key stakeholders, including neighbouring States, donor countries and members of the Security Council in ensuring sustained and effective United Nations support for the consolidation of peace and stability between and within the two countries.

169. Coordination with other United Nations entities and international organizations in the region also remains a priority, such as the close cooperation

with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and UNDP on the issue of humanitarian access to Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile. The Office of the Special Envoy will continue to be administratively supported by the United Nations Office to the African Union in Addis Ababa, as well as UNAMID and UNMISS in Khartoum and Juba, respectively.

Performance information

170. From January to June 2015, the Office of the Special Envoy continued to actively engage key officials in both countries to promote the resolution of outstanding issues from the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and pursue arrangements to strengthen bilateral relations and to address related internal conflicts in both countries that are an impediment to the normalization of bilateral relations. The Office also cooperated with, and supported, the African Union High-level Implementation Panel and IGAD, including by providing analysis and input for resolving obstacles in the ongoing negotiation processes.

171. With regard to the two main outstanding issues from the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, there continues to be minimal progress. Regarding the Abyei area, the Governments of the Sudan and South Sudan have made no progress in the implementation of the Agreement of 20 June 2011 or the resolution of the final status of the territory. However, following extensive engagement of the relevant stakeholders by the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, the Office of the Special Envoy and UNISFA, on 29 and 30 March 2015 the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee met for the first time in nearly two years and agreed to convene a meeting of traditional leaders to enhance dialogue between the communities in Abyei. Following the suspension in late 2014 of the talks on cessation of hostilities in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile, the Office of the Special Envoy and the High-level Implementation Panel have continued to engage the parties and other relevant stakeholders with a view to enabling a resumption of the negotiations in the near future. The members of the High-level Implementation Panel visited Khartoum from 2 to 4 August 2015 to meet senior Government and opposition officials with a view to assessing the respective positions on cessation of hostilities in the Two Areas and Darfur, as well as the positions on the national dialogue and a way forward.

172. The efforts to promote a genuine national dialogue in the Sudan continued and in March 2015 the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, supported by the Office of the Special Envoy, called for a pre-national dialogue meeting between the Government and the political opposition, armed movements and civil society representatives to discuss process issues related to the national dialogue. However, the meeting had to be suspended owing to the decision of the ruling National Congress Party and its allies not to attend.

173. Despite sustained engagement and pressure by IGAD on South Sudan, the President of South Sudan and the leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (in Opposition) were unable to agree on the key issues related to power-sharing and security arrangements during the transitional period. Consequently, on 13 June 2015 in Johannesburg, South Africa, the IGAD leaders agreed to expand the mediation mechanism to comprise, in addition to IGAD, the African Union, the Troika States (Norway, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States), China, the European Union and the United

Nations, in what is now referred to as "IGAD PLUS". Meanwhile, the IGAD mediation team worked on a compromise text for a comprehensive peace agreement, which they presented to IGAD PLUS members on 21 July 2015 for their comments and inputs. After consultations among IGAD PLUS members on the proposed text, a revised draft compromise agreement was handed over to the South Sudanese stakeholders on 24 July 2015. Negotiations on the compromise text resumed on 6 August 2015 in Addis Ababa, leading to the signing of the agreement by Riek Machar Teny, the leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (in Opposition), and Pagan Amum, representative of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement Leaders (Former Detainees), on 17 August 2015. The President of South Sudan, who had requested extra time to consult with his constituencies, also signed the agreement on 26 August 2015 in Juba in the presence of leaders from Ethiopia, Kenya, the Sudan and Uganda, albeit with a list of 16 reservations.

Planning assumptions for 2016

174. The efforts of the Office of the Special Envoy will focus on resolving the two main outstanding issues in the implementation of resolution 2046 (2012), namely, the establishment of temporary arrangements for, and agreement on, the process to determine the final status of Abyei, and the conflict in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States of the Sudan. It will also continue to support efforts to reach an agreement on a timeline for border demarcation and a dispute resolution mechanism for disputed border areas. The sustained engagement of stakeholders in both countries by the Special Envoy will remain important in order to stabilize the security situation and eventually find a lasting solution to these issues.

175. The Special Envoy will also continue to work towards the achievement and consolidation of peace and stability between and within the Sudan and South Sudan. The Special Envoy will shuttle regularly between the Sudan and South Sudan and travel to countries of the region and other pertinent locations for necessary consultations.

176. The Office of the Special Envoy will continue to support efforts, including those of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, to end the multiple conflicts in the Sudan through a holistic process that includes a genuine and credible national dialogue. The Special Envoy will participate in all rounds of negotiations conducted under the auspices of the High-level Implementation Panel. In close cooperation with UNMISS, the Office of the Special Envoy will remain involved in providing mediation support to the implementation of the peace agreement.

177. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures for the mission are set out below.

Table 23
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To support the process of negotiations to achieve consolidation of peace and stability within and between the Sudan and South Sudan through political engagement

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(a) Implementation of bilateral agreements	(a) (i) Establishment of the Abyei Area Administration *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes (ii) Full withdrawal of armed forces and police from the Abyei Area *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No; following the signing of the agreement, both Governments withdrew some of their armed forces and police from the Abyei Area Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes (iii) Full operationalization of the joint border verification and monitoring mechanism and full establishment of the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes (iv) Cessation of hostilities and an agreement on security and political arrangements in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan States *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes

	(v) Humanitarian access for vulnerable populations in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan States *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes
(b) Completion of negotiations on the outstanding issues between the Sudan and South Sudan	(b) (i) Agreement between the Sudan and South Sudan on a timeline for border demarcation and a dispute resolution mechanism for disputed areas *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes (ii) Agreement between the Sudan and South Sudan on the process leading to the determination of the final status of the Abyei Area *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes
(c) Consolidation of peace and stability within the Sudan and South Sudan	(c) (i) Effective and timely implementation of the compromise peace agreement on the resolution of the conflict in South Sudan *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes (ii) An inclusive and credible national dialogue in the Sudan *Performance measures* Actual 2014: No Estimate 2015: No Target 2016: Yes

Outputs

- Regular engagement and consultations with the authorities of the Sudan and South Sudan and other relevant parties on all issues related to (a) the implementation of bilateral agreements, (b) the completion of negotiations on the outstanding issues between the Sudan and South Sudan and (c) the consolidation of peace and stability within the Sudan and South Sudan (6 visits each to the Sudan and South Sudan)
- Provision of advice or technical assistance through regular meetings and consultations with the African Union High-level Implementation Panel on (a) the implementation of bilateral agreements, (b) the completion of negotiations on the outstanding issues between the Sudan and South Sudan and (c) consolidation of peace and stability within the Sudan and South Sudan (12 meetings/consultations)
- Regular engagement and consultations with key Member States, including countries of the region and neighbouring States, to develop and foster common approaches (12 meetings/consultations)
- Quarterly briefings by the Special Envoy to the General Assembly and the Security Council on various related issues (4)

External factors

178. The objective is expected to be achieved, provided that the political will of the leaders and their respective communities prevails and that there is continuing support from the international community.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 24
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*		*Total requirements for 2015*	*Variance 2015-2016*
	Appropriation	*Estimated expenditure*	*Variance*	*Total*	*Non-recurrent*		
Category	*(1)*	*(2)*	*(3)=(1)-(2)*	*(4)*	*(5)*	*(6)*	*(7)=(4)-(6)*
Civilian personnel costs	2 116.6	1 834.5	282.1	1 159.8	–	1 077.9	81.9
Operational costs	557.2	516.6	40.6	252.9	2.4	250.6	2.3
Total	**2 673.8**	**2 351.1**	**322.7**	**1 412.7**	**2.4**	**1 328.5**	**84.2**

Table 25
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2015	1	–	–	1	–	2	1	–	5	–	–	5	2	1	–	8
Proposed 2016	1	–	–	1	–	2	1	–	5	–	–	5	2	1	–	8
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

179. The anticipated unencumbered balance for the period 2014-2015 is attributable mainly to higher-than-budgeted vacancy rates and the reduced number of official trips associated with the delayed on-boarding of staff.

180. Resource requirements for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 amount to $1,412,700 (net of staff assessment) and would provide for the salaries and common staff costs for the continuation of the eight positions (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 D-1, 2 P-4, 1 P-3, 2 National Professional Officer, 1 Local level) ($1,159,800), as well as operational costs ($252,900) comprising official travel ($187,000), facilities and infrastructure ($11,500), ground transportation ($6,600), communications ($27,000), information technology ($3,500), medical services ($4,600) and other supplies, services and equipment ($12,700).

181. In 2016, the proposed number and level of positions for the Office of the Special Envoy will remain unchanged. The Under-Secretary-General, one D-1, one P-3 and one Local level position would be based in Addis Ababa, while one P-4 and one National Professional Officer would be based in Juba and one P-4 and one National Professional Officer would be based in Khartoum.

182. In section IV, paragraph 11, of its resolution 69/262, the General Assembly emphasized that the United Nations Office to the African Union and the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan were separate entities with dedicated responsibilities and that the current joint leadership arrangement needed to be reviewed, and requested the Secretary-General to make every effort to appoint expeditiously the Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union and the Special Representative to the African Union and to report thereon to the General Assembly.

183. The Secretary-General has reviewed the joint leadership arrangement and, as a result, feels there is a need to address the anomaly of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) and United Nations Office for West African (UNOWA) being headed by Under-Secretaries-General while the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the continental organization is at a lower level (Assistant Secretary-General). In the light of these considerations, in May 2013 the Secretary-General appointed Haile Menkerios as Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union and Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African Union at the level of Under-Secretary-General and asked him to continue his assignment as Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan (also at the level of Under-Secretary-General) and to carry out the Secretary-General's good offices in eastern and southern Africa.

184. In view of the dedicated responsibilities of these entities, the Secretary-General has included in the proposed programme budget for the period 2016-2017 a request to upgrade the post of Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union from the level of Assistant Secretary-General to Under-Secretary-General, within the overall resources under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget (A/70/6 (Sect. 3), para. 3.156).

185. The variance (increase) between the proposed resources for 2016 and approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to the increase in the common staff costs for international staff and salaries for national staff reflecting the step in grade of current incumbents.

Extrabudgetary resources

186. No extrabudgetary resources were available in 2015 or are projected for 2016 for the Office.

I. Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel

($3,865,000)

Background, mandate and objective

187. In its resolution 2071 (2012), the Security Council welcomed the appointment of the Special Envoy for the Sahel to mobilize international efforts and coordinate the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel. The strategy (see S/2013/354) was welcomed by the Security Council through a presidential statement issued on 16 July 2013 (S/PRST/2013/10). Since then, and despite the efforts of the United Nations and others, the political, security and humanitarian situation in the Sahel remains volatile owing to the effects of the Libyan conflict, the regionalization of the Boko Haram insurgency and the fragile peace process in Mali. The situation calls for even stronger commitment by Governments of the region to improve governance and work towards greater regional cooperation for development and security. It also calls for deeper adjustments to the implementation of the strategy and intensified efforts on the part of the international community to better target and coordinate support.

188. The conflict in Libya has led to increased flow of small weapons into the Sahel as well as the proliferation of armed groups and organized crime, including drug trafficking and human trafficking. The Libyan territory provides a safe haven to armed groups and criminal networks in the Sahel. In a similar manner, the ongoing conflict in Mali offers armed groups opportunities to network with criminal gangs for the supply of weapons, exchange and training of combatants and drug trafficking. The Boko Haram insurgency has caused a humanitarian crisis of epic proportions in the Sahel, with hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing their homes and the spillage of violent attacks into neighbouring countries. Boko Haram has carried out attacks in Sahel countries such as Chad and the Niger, where its recruitment networks take advantage of impoverished and unemployed youth, in the context of decreased State spending on development and social services and increased radicalization and violent religious extremism.

189. The Sahel is also the region of origin or transit of thousands of illegal migrants trying to reach Europe from the Libyan coast aboard makeshift boats. Many of these boats are regularly wrecked, resulting in thousands of migrants losing their lives in the Mediterranean Sea.

190. The Security Council expressed grave concern regarding terrorism in the Sahel (S/PRST/2014/17) and has condemned the global trends of violent extremism and, in its resolution 2178 (2014), called on Member States to prevent the movement of terrorist fighters to and from conflict zones.

191. The demographics of the Sahel, with its disproportionate predominance of youth populations, also contribute to the challenges in the region. The lack of education among youth and their exclusion from the socioeconomic fabric and the political system make them vulnerable to enrolment into criminal and terrorist groups and to easy manipulation by political or religious extremists.

192. The diversity and transnational nature of these challenges require a regional cross-border approach and solution. The United Nations and its partners therefore plan to increase support for regional organizations and to States through programmes aimed at boosting social services, promoting the rule of law and

combating radicalization and violent extremism in the Sahel. They must also promote regional opportunities for employment and education of youth and women, fight transnational organized crime and enhance the involvement of countries of the region in the sustainable prevention of illicit migration. At the same time, it is important to address urgent humanitarian issues such as attending to the needs of hundreds of thousands of refugees, improving access to food and addressing malnutrition.

193. During 2014, the Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel has been engaged in intensive outreach to countries of the region, civil society and regional organizations in order to build partnerships and enhance ownership aimed at facilitating the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel. The Special Envoy has also engaged with international partners to increase coherence of the international community's response and to improve coordination of activities. This has been accomplished mainly through the Ministerial Coordination Platform for the Sahel, and its technical secretariat, which is co-chaired by the Special Envoy and the African Union High Representative for Mali and the Sahel. There is increasing willingness by regional and international counterparts to partner with the United Nations to address the challenges facing the Sahel, resulting in important joint initiatives, such as the creation of the Sahel Women Regional Platform with the support of the United Nations and the African Union. With the facilitation of the Special Envoy for the Sahel, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger signed a regional declaration to combat radicalization and violent extremism in the Sahel. The declaration announced the creation of a regional cell for the prevention of radicalization with the support of the United Nations and the establishment of an early warning mechanism under the aegis of the Group of Five for the Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, Mali and the Niger).

Cooperation with other entities

194. The Office of the Special Envoy has been promoting a regional United Nations approach to solving challenges in the region and helping to ensure that it serves as the overarching framework for all United Nations entities working in the region at the national, regional and headquarters levels. This requires greater convergence among all programmatic frameworks and more support for the development and implementation of regional projects. In addition, the good offices of the Special Envoy have been paving the way for the development of regional projects and will continue to lead efforts of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to mobilize funding for their implementation.

195. The Office of the Special Envoy has been promoting partnerships with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other regional and international partners to design regional initiatives to address multifaceted problems facing the region. It has been promoting close collaboration between the United Nations and ECOWAS, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Group of Five for the Sahel and the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel. The Special Envoy has been guiding the work of the United Nations entities that convene the governance, security and resilience working groups of the strategy and chairing the Steering Committee meetings that bring together all entities involved in the implementation of the strategy, including resident coordinators, special political missions and peacekeeping missions in the region. In addition, plans are under way to systematize regional reporting of the United

Nations and its agencies, funds and programmes in the Sahel, including the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, UNOCA and UNOWA on thematic issues pertaining to the implementation of the strategy.

196. The Office of the Special Envoy, UNOWA and the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission share the same Mission Support Unit in Dakar for administrative services, including for the provision of air and surface transport, human resources management, travel-related services, budgetary and financial services and building management. In addition, other functions such as security and public information are also jointly utilized on a cost-sharing basis. The Office of the Special Envoy continues to share a fixed-wing aircraft with the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission, the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau and UNOWA to travel within the region.

Performance information

197. In 2015, the Special Envoy successfully mobilized the political will of countries of the region to work with the United Nations to implement the strategy and undertake changes to address the challenges in the Sahel. The Special Envoy facilitated partnerships between the United Nations and the Group of Five for the Sahel for the development of projects to address regional and cross-cutting challenges in the Sahel region, including the efforts to combat radicalization in the region, reduce human trafficking and illicit migration and improve security cooperation. Furthermore, sustained advocacy with countries of the region has triggered stronger commitment to address the overwhelming challenges facing the Sahel through regional cooperation.

198. During the reporting period, the five priority countries of the strategy — Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and the Niger, known as the Group of Five for the Sahel — have agreed to increase and expand regional cooperation and have expressed willingness to partner with the United Nations to implement various projects and initiatives, such as the nine flagship projects that have been identified jointly with the Group of Five. As a result of the Special Envoy's good offices and advocacy role, the countries of the region have agreed, in a declaration signed on 14 May 2015, to implement specific measures to address radicalization and violent extremism by building the capacity of State institutions to fight impunity against the phenomenon, regulating funding of radical groups and establishing de-radicalization programmes in prisons and places of detention. In addition to fighting radicalization, efforts are under way to boost security cooperation among the Group of Five through the establishment of a security cooperation platform, with the support of the United Nations. The Special Envoy also spearheaded the establishment of the Sahel Women's Forum, which is aimed at boosting the participation of women in finding solutions to challenges of the region, including the fight against radicalization, improving economic resilience and the harmonization of legal frameworks.

199. In order to ensure coherence and to avoid duplication of multiple strategies and initiatives being implemented in the region, the Office of the Special Envoy has boosted the effectiveness of coordination mechanisms. The continued support of the Special Envoy to the Ministerial Coordination Platform for the Sahel and the Contact Group of International Partners for the Sahel is therefore playing an

important role to help foster coherence and cooperation, identify gaps and promote the mapping of interventions in the region. In order to promote detailed sectoral coordination of the international community's efforts, the Special Envoy and the African Union facilitated two meetings of the Ministerial Coordination Platform thematic working groups on governance, security, resilience and development/ infrastructure, bringing together 25 regional stakeholders.

200. In implementing the strategy, the United Nations system in the region has made important strides towards addressing key challenges in the region, particularly in areas where it enjoys a comparative advantage, by accelerating the implementation of projects in the governance, security and resilience sectors. Under the strategy, the United Nations and its agencies, funds and programmes are supporting countries of the region through the implementation of three regional projects to better control their borders, enhance small arms control and prevent drug trafficking.

Planning assumptions for 2016

201. In 2016, the Office of the Special Envoy will continue to promote awareness among the international community regarding the challenges confronting the Sahel region and accelerate the implementation of the strategy to address challenges in the Sahel. It will continue to conduct joint assessments of the situation in the Sahel, in partnership with United Nations entities and countries of the region, in order to enhance regional analysis of the political, security, humanitarian and development trends in the Sahel. The Special Envoy will also continue to undertake efforts to mobilize funds and resources for the implementation of projects under the strategy.

202. The Special Envoy will pursue advocacy with Member States and regional organizations to undertake the necessary reforms, particularly in the fields of governance, security and resilience, as a means of addressing pressing challenges, in particular those that have cross-cutting and/or cross-border dimensions. In that regard, particular focus will be on providing support to regional organizations such as ECCAS, ECOWAS and the Group of Five for the Sahel in order to increase joint programming capabilities for the implementation of regional projects. The Special Envoy will also continue to provide programmatic support for the development of projects and initiatives with regional dimensions, to be implemented by the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in collaboration with regional organizations, aimed at addressing multifaceted challenges in the region. In order for the implementation of the strategy to be accelerated, there is a need for continued focus on improving the coordination and coherence of the efforts of the United Nations and international partners working in the region. To that end, it is critical that the support of the Special Envoy to the Ministerial Coordination Platform and its technical secretariat continue.

203. The Special Envoy will enhance visibility of the efforts being undertaken by the United Nations and its agencies, funds and programmes, other international organizations and the countries of the region to address the challenges through media communications and the organization of high-level events on the Sahel. The Office of the Special Envoy will strengthen its capacity to provide regional analytical reports and use that as a basis for its engagement with Member States and the international community on the Sahel.

204. The priorities for the Office of the Special Envoy for 2016 will be:

(a) To engage with the Governments in the Sahel, international organizations and communities to promote political commitment and accelerate the implementation of the strategy and other initiatives in the region;

(b) To engage with Member States, donors and the international community to build partnerships and mobilize resources for the implementation of the strategy;

(c) To enhance the capacity of the United Nations entities to develop projects to address regional challenges, particularly those related to women and youth empowerment, the prevention of radicalization, migration and security cooperation;

(d) To lead the efforts to improve the coordination and coherence of the international community's initiatives in the region, including through continued support to the Ministerial Coordination Platform, the technical secretariat, the thematic groups on security, governance, development and infrastructure and the Contact Group of International Partners for the Sahel;

(e) To enhance visibility of the efforts being undertaken to address challenges affecting the Sahel region, including by highlighting the initiatives of the countries of the region, the United Nations and its partners;

(f) To enhance regional analysis of the United Nations system in the region in order to better understand cross-border threats to peace, security and development and provide timely reports to the Security Council highlighting challenges, developments and progress in the implementation of the strategy as well as other initiatives for the Sahel region.

205. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures for the mission are set out below.

Table 26
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: Support the Governments and people of the Sahel region to address the causes of instability within a sustainable and long-term perspective

Expected accomplishments	**Indicators of achievement**
(a) Improved coordination, cooperation and awareness among countries of the region, the United Nations and the international community in order to address security, governance and resilience challenges in the Sahel	(a) (i) Number of adopted outcome documents of the meetings of the Ministerial Coordination Platform and the Contact Group of International Partners for the Sahel outlining modalities for avoiding duplication, improved coherence of efforts and synergy among actors in the Sahel *Performance measures* Actual 2014: 2 Estimate 2015: 5 Target 2016: 5

(ii) Increase in the number of projects proposed by the United Nations entities to address challenges in the Sahel region, in collaboration with the countries of the region and regional organizations

Performance measures

Actual 2014: 5

Estimate 2015: 11

Target 2016: 15

(iii) Increase in the funds mobilized by the United Nations for the implementation of projects under the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel

Performance measures

Actual 2014: 0

Estimate 2015: $10 million

Target 2016: $20 million

(iv) Enhanced cooperation among countries of the Sahel on peace, security, governance and development

Performance measures

(Number of established mechanisms for regional cooperation on governance, security, migration, youth and women's empowerment as a result of United Nations support)

Actual 2014: 0

Estimate 2015: 3

Target 2016: 5

Outputs

- Meeting reports and communiqués of the Ministerial Coordination Platform and the Contact Group of International Partners drafted and shared with all stakeholders in the Sahel (12)
- An updated mapping report of Sahel programmes and projects drafted for publication and sharing with the public (1)
- Project concept notes and full-fledged project proposals submitted to donors to solicit funding for regional initiatives to address key challenges in the region (14)
- Technical assistance through the provision of six experts to support Sahel countries and regional organizations (6)

- Organization of joint high-level advocacy activities on radicalization, migration and women's empowerment, in conjunction with the Group of Five for the Sahel, ECOWAS, ECCAS and the African Union (4)
- Facilitation of negotiations on Sahel regional cooperation agreements by the United Nations (4)
- Elaboration of regional analytical reports on developments and emerging trends in the Sahel in conjunction with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to feed into Security Council briefings on the situation in the Sahel (6)
- Publication of e-magazine *Sahel Focus* (4)
- Regular maintenance of the website for the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel/Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel to provide updates on the security and development context of the region and on efforts under way to address challenges (12)
- Organization of quarterly press conferences/briefings by the Special Envoy on progress made on the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel (4)
- Annual briefing to the Security Council by the Special Envoy (1)

External factors

206. The objective would be achieved on the assumption that there is: (a) no proliferation of cross-border organized crime, drug trafficking and armed groups; (b) no deterioration of the security and political situations in Libya, Mali and northern Nigeria; (c) availability of resources for the implementation of projects of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel; and (d) strong commitment by the Member States and regional organizations in the Sahel to work with the United Nations to implement the integrated strategy.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 27
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			*Requirements for 2016*			
Category	*Appropriation* (1)	*Estimated expenditure* (2)	*Variance* (3)=(1)-(2)	*Total* (4)	*Non-recurrent* (5)	*Total requirements for 2015* (6)	*Variance 2015-2016* (7)=(4)-(6)
Civilian personnel costs	3 261.6	2 445.8	815.8	1 969.3	–	2 112.6	(143.3)
Operational costs	3 581.7	3 611.1	(29.4)	1 895.7	–	1 875.1	20.6
Total	**6 843.3**	**6 056.9**	**786.4**	**3 865.0**	**–**	**3 987.7**	**(122.7)**

Table 28
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									*General Service and related categories*			*National staff*			
	USG	*ASG*	*D-2*	*D-1*	*P-5*	*P-4*	*P-3*	*P-2*	***Subtotal***	*Field Security Service*	*General Service*	***Total international***	*National Professional Officer*	*Local level*	*United Nations Volunteers*	***Total***
Approved 2015	–	1	–	–	3	5	3	–	**12**	1	–	**13**	1	3	–	**17**
Proposed 2016	–	1	–	–	3	5	3	–	**12**	1	–	**13**	1	3	–	**17**
Change	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

207. The anticipated unencumbered balance for the period 2014-2015 is attributable to lower expenditures owing mainly to: (a) the transition of the mission from Rome to Dakar in 2014 and the resulting higher average vacancy rates both for international and national staff than budgeted; and (b) the fewer number of regional and national civil society conferences organized by the United Nations, offset in part by the acquisition of vehicles which were not planned for.

208. Resource requirements for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 amount to $3,865,000 (net of staff assessment) and would provide for the salaries and common staff costs for the continuation of the 17 positions (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 3 P-5, 5 P-4, 3 P-3, 1 Field Service, 1 National Professional Officer, 3 Local level) ($1,969,300), as well as for operational requirements ($1,895,700) comprising consultants ($246,800), official travel ($465,000), facilities and infrastructure ($146,600), ground transportation ($32,300), air transportation ($534,500), communications ($148,900), information technology ($76,400) and other supplies, services and equipment ($245,200).

209. In 2016, the proposed number and level of positions for the Office of the Special Envoy will remain unchanged. The Assistant Secretary-General, two P-5, three P-4, three P-3, one Field Service, one National Professional Officer and three Local level positions are based in Dakar; one P-4 position is based in Bamako; and one P-5 and one P-4 position in the Department of Political Affairs are based in New York.

210. In section IV, paragraph 12, of its resolution 69/262, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and, recalling paragraph 10 of its resolution 68/280, requested the Secretary-General to keep the leadership arrangement of the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel under review and to report thereon to the Assembly at the main part of its seventieth session.

211. In February 2014, the Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel was transferred from Rome to Dakar, and in May 2014 the Secretary-General appointed a new Special Envoy at the level of Assistant Secretary-General to oversee the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel. Since her appointment, the Special Envoy has worked closely with national, regional and international stakeholders to promote the United Nations strategy as a tool to foster inclusive and effective governance, strengthen national and regional security mechanisms to address cross-border threats and build long-term resilience in the

Sahel region. Among other tasks, the Special Envoy is entrusted to strengthen confidence among the "core" Sahel countries and to mobilize financial resources and political support for the implementation of the strategy. The Special Envoy leads United Nations support to the Ministerial Coordination Platform for the Sahel, co-chairing with the African Union the technical secretariat of this mechanism, and has established a close partnership with the Group of Five for the Sahel. The Special Envoy chairs a Steering Committee that provides overall guidance to three thematic working groups that are undertaking regional activities in the areas of governance, security and resilience.

212. Taking into consideration the role of the Special Envoy and the nature of the tasks presented above, I would like to recommend maintaining the position of the Head of Office at the level of Assistant Secretary-General. This will continue to ensure senior guidance and political engagement at all levels required for the implementation of the strategy.

213. The variance (decrease) between the proposed resources for 2016 and approved budget for 2015 is attributable mainly to: (a) the decrease in international staff costs, mostly due to the change in post adjustment rate for Senegal and the provision at the actual average step in grade and dependency status of current incumbents, and the ratio of actual common staff cost expenditures to actual salaries, based on expenditure trends; (b) the decrease in the salaries and common staff costs of national staff due to the favourable movement of the exchange rate between the United States dollar and the local currency; (c) the decrease in the number of regional and national civil society conferences organized by the Office of the Special Envoy, which are offset in part by the increase in the actual cost of maintenance services for facilities and the increase in the cost of commercial communications and requirement for printing and publishing services.

Extrabudgetary resources

214. No extrabudgetary resources were available in 2015 or are projected for 2016 for the Office.

J. Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region

($4,739,500)

Background, mandate and objective

215. On 24 February 2013, recognizing the recurring cycles of conflict and violence that have plagued the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, Angola, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia signed the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Region. The Framework outlines key national, regional and international actions required to end the cycles of conflict in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo. Kenya and the Sudan joined the Framework in January 2014.

216. The Security Council, in its resolution 2098 (2013), welcomed the signing of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework and the appointment of a Special

Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, and requested the Special Envoy, with the appropriate support from the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to lead, coordinate and assess the implementation of national and regional commitments under the Framework, including through the establishment of benchmarks and appropriate follow-up measures. The Council further encouraged the Special Envoy to lead a comprehensive political process, which would include all relevant stakeholders, to address the underlying root causes of the conflict. Accordingly, the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region was established in Nairobi in 2013 with the specific mandate to support the full implementation of the Framework.

217. Since the establishment of the position in 2013, the Special Envoy, with the support of the Office, has coordinated and assessed the implementation of the Peace, Security and Coordination Framework by providing support to the Kampala Dialogue and follow-up processes; providing substantive support to and hosting the activities of the Technical Support Committee for the drafting of the regional benchmarks, the Plan of Action and related priorities; advocating for and coordinating international support for the Framework; supporting the launch and operationalization of the Women's Platform; supporting the Regional Oversight Mechanism; providing support to the consultative dialogue to establish a civil society coalition in the region; strengthening coordination and cooperation with United Nations agencies through the establishment of a regional strategy for Framework implementation; supporting preparations for the Great Lakes Private Investment Conference; strengthening collaboration with regional partners, such as the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region, the Southern African Development Community, the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries and the African Union; strengthening the governing structures of the Framework; and supporting the conduct of credible and inclusive elections, dialogue processes and preventive diplomacy in the region.

218. In January 2015, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region developed a three-year road map (2015-2017) to support the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. The road map identifies nine key priorities for the effective and efficient discharge of the Special Envoy's mandates. In executing his functions, the Special Envoy will emphasize national and regional ownership of the political process in all dimensions of his work from both Governments and civil society.

Cooperation with other entities

219. The Office of the Special Envoy will coordinate and collaborate closely with MONUSCO, especially on the implementation of national commitments as outlined in the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework and Security Council resolutions 2098 (2013), 2147 (2014) and 2211 (2015).

220. The Office of the Special Envoy has collaborated with the United Nations country teams in the region to devise and launch a United Nations integrated support package in support of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. The agencies in this partnership include UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), UNFPA, the International

Organization for Migration, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

221. At the institutional level, the Office of the Special Envoy will consolidate the operationalization of the modalities for cooperation with the World Bank Group, in the context of the strategic partnership announced by the Secretary-General and the World Bank President during their joint visit to the Great Lakes region in May 2013, and with the African Development Bank, on the economic pillars of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework, and facilitate the operationalization of the United Nations country team regional support strategy for the Framework, particularly in the delivery of cross-border confidence-building and development projects.

222. The Office of the Special Envoy coordinates regularly with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and, when required, with the African Union, in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to maximize synergy on key activities and priorities already identified by the Conference at the Summit level.

223. The United Nations Support Office for the African Union Mission in Somalia will continue to provide technical, logistical and administrative services to the Office of the Special Envoy free of charge. Support will also be provided by the United Nations Office at Nairobi (security and office facilities) as well as UNDP country offices in the region, both on a cost-reimbursable basis. Back-office and transactional support to the Office of the Special Envoy is also provided by the Regional Support Centre at Entebbe, Uganda.

Performance information

224. During the first half of 2015, the Special Envoy of the Secretary General for the Great Lakes region supported the signatory countries in the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. This was achieved through the execution of the priorities of the road map of the Special Envoy as well as the implementation of relevant aspects of Security Council resolution 2211 (2015) to promote the conduct of timely, credible and inclusive national elections in the Great Lakes region. In particular, the Special Envoy engaged in the elections and political transitions dialogues in Burundi, and the conduct of preventive diplomacy in the region within the broad objectives of the Framework.

225. The Office of the Special Envoy's accomplishments under expected accomplishment (a) for 2015 are as follows:

(a) Coherence and consensus on military actions against illegal armed groups in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly the Forces démocratiques de liberation du Rwanda (FDLR), by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the region and international partners achieved;

(b) Strategic dialogue between the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the United Nations for the resumption of collaboration between the Forces armées de la république démocratique du Congo (FARDC) and MONUSCO on military actions against the FDLR commenced;

(c) Collaboration between the Governments of Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, including joint assessment missions, for the repatriation of ex-Mouvement du 23 mars (M23) combatants from Uganda and Rwanda established;

(d) Technical level coordination between the Democratic Republic of the Congo national oversight mechanism, the Regional Oversight Mechanism, the Technical Support Committee, the Conference and MONUSCO to advance the full implementation of the Nairobi Declarations strengthened;

(e) Mediation between the Government and political opposition in Burundi to achieve peaceful, inclusive and credible elections commenced;

(f) Sensitization of political actors in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to achieve peaceful, inclusive and credible elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo commenced;

(g) Process to strengthen the governing structures of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for effective and timely implementation commenced with the support of the African Union Commission. Furthermore, collaboration and coordination on land and property rights for returning refugees and internally displaced persons in the Great Lakes region commenced. Joint Declaration by Ministers of lands and refugees from the Great Lakes countries signed.

226. The Office of the Special Envoy's accomplishments under expected accomplishment (b) for 2015 are as follows:

(a) Collaboration and guidance for the United Nations country team regional strategy in support of the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework established;

(b) Selection through competitive bidding process to host the Great Lakes Private Sector Investment Conference in February 2016 completed (venue is Kinshasa);

(c) The first face-to-face meeting of the Advisory Board of the Women's Platform for the implementation of the Framework held in January 2015;

(d) Regional consultation for the establishment of a civil society coalition in support of the implementation of the Framework held in Entebbe from 28 to 30 April 2015;

(e) The inaugural grantee convening of the Women's Platform for the Framework held in Goma, Democratic Republic of the Congo, from 13 to 15 May 2015;

(f) Joint initiative by the Office of the Special Envoy, MONUSCO and UNEP to organize a meeting of experts for the publication of a background report on illegal exploitation and trade in natural resources by organized criminal groups held on 17 and 18 April 2015.

Planning assumptions for 2016

227. In 2016 the Special Envoy and his office will continue to implement the provisions of the three-year road map (2015-2017) to support the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. In addition, the Office of the Special Envoy will continue to provide substantive support through monitoring,

analysis and mediation support to the Special Envoy's role in high-level dialogue on sensitive issues related to root causes.

228. Based on the Special Envoy's mandates as outlined in Security Council resolutions 2098 (2013), 2147 (2014) and 2211 (2015), the overarching planning assumptions for the 2016 budget will focus on the following priorities and programmatic activities:

(a) Good offices to support confidence-building, cordial relations and the implementation of existing accords that promote regional economic integration and the free movement of goods and people, including women and youth;

(b) Follow-up processes and the organization of the Great Lakes Private Sector Investment Conference in order to establish a permanent International Conference on the Great Lakes Region private sector forum for sustainable investment and development in the region;

(c) Consolidate efforts to ensure that gender, as well as women, peace and security perspectives, in particular, on conflict-related sexual violence, peace and mediation are mainstreamed in the peace and development processes. Monitor and evaluate progress in the operations of the Women's Platform;

(d) Mobilize and coordinate international support for the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework; including through the mobilization of resources for confidence-building initiatives, such as the Expanded Joint Verification Mechanism. Assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the mechanism;

(e) Support the functioning of the Framework governing structures (the Technical Support Committee and the Regional Oversight Mechanism) through capacity support, including planning and organization of meetings, and the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Framework;

(f) Consolidate the gains from efforts to involve civil society and youth in the implementation of the Framework. Establish a civil society coalition for the region and, in conjunction with the Conference, follow up on the outcome of the summit on youth unemployment and related programmes and activities.

229. The objective, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures for the mission are set out below.

Table 29
Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective: To support efforts towards the implementation of the provisions of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region of 2013, and support efforts that will lead to a durable solution to resolve recurring conflicts in the Great Lakes region	
Expected accomplishments	**Indicators of achievement**
(a) Progress in the implementation of the commitments under the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework according to established benchmarks and the Special Envoy's road map, including the conducting of peaceful elections in the region	(a) (i) Reduced number and strength of the activities of armed groups in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo *Performance measures* (Number of armed groups neutralized)

Actual 2014: 1

Estimate 2015: 1

Target 2016: 1

(ii) Progress in the implementation of the Nairobi Declarations

Performance measures

(Percentage of provisions of the Nairobi Declarations implemented)

Actual 2014: 5 per cent

Estimate 2015: 7 per cent

Target 2016: 9 per cent

(iii) Progress in the repatriation of eligible ex-M23 elements from Rwanda and Uganda

Performance measures

(Number of eligible ex-M23 elements repatriated to the Democratic Republic of the Congo from Rwanda and Uganda)

Actual 2014: 186

Estimate 2015: 13

Target 2016: 500

(iv) Increase in the number of confidence-building projects implemented in the region

Performance measures

(Number of projects developed and implemented)

Actual 2014: 4

Estimate 2015: 4

Target 2016: 6

(v) Conduct of peaceful, inclusive and transparent elections in the region

Performance measures

(Number of peaceful, inclusive and transparent elections held in the region)

Actual 2014: 0

Estimate 2015: 1

Target 2016: 2

(vi) Strengthened Regional Oversight Mechanism and the Technical Support Committee and regular consultations among Framework witnesses/guarantors

Performance measures

(Number of meetings held)

Actual 2014: 2 Regional Oversight Mechanism meetings, 4 Technical Support Committee meetings, 1 Framework witnesses/guarantors meeting

Estimate 2015: 2 Regional Oversight Mechanism meetings, 4 Technical Support Committee meetings, 2 Framework witnesses/guarantors meetings

Target 2016: 2 Regional Oversight Mechanism meetings, 4 Technical Support Committee meetings, 2 Framework witnesses/guarantors meetings

Outputs

- Quarterly engagement and consultations at senior and working levels with the Governments of the 13 signatory countries of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework (4)
- Missions conducted by the Office of the Special Envoy to promote confidence-building on political, socioeconomic and humanitarian issues in the region (4)
- Reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council (2)
- Briefings to the Security Council (2)
- Meetings of the Technical Support Committee convened jointly with the African Union Commission (2)
- Meetings of the Regional Oversight Mechanism jointly convened and co-chaired by the Secretary-General and the Chair of the African Union Commission (2)
- Meeting of the witnesses/guarantors of the Framework, convened jointly with the African Union Commission (1)
- Missions to facilitate credible, peaceful and inclusive elections in the region (5)
- Advocacy missions undertaken and high-level discussions held to advance the implementation of the Nairobi Declarations (3)
- Briefing, guidance or strategy paper developed to accelerate the implementation of the Nairobi Declarations (1)
- Missions undertaken in collaboration with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Uganda to accelerate the amnesty and repatriation of ex-M23 elements from Rwanda and Uganda (3)
- Missions and/or meetings undertaken/convened in collaboration with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Conference and the Southern African Development Community to accelerate the neutralization of the FDLR, the Allied Democratic Forces and other armed groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (3)

Expected accomplishments	Indicators of achievement
(b) Progress in facilitating a political process that involves the signatory countries of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework, the international community, civil society, women, youth and other stakeholders to address the underlying root causes of the conflict in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo	(b) (i) Facilitation of durable solution initiatives to address issues of refugees and internally displaced persons in the region *Performance measures* (Number of initiatives facilitated) Actual 2014: 6 Estimate 2015: 5 Target 2016: 5 (ii) Improved socioeconomic development and enhanced regional economic integration *Performance measures* (Number of initiatives and projects implemented to promote regional economic cooperation) Actual 2014: 4 Estimate 2015: 4 Target 2016: 4 (iii) Increased mobilization and engagement of *forces vives* (women, youth and civil society) of the region, on the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework *Performance measures* (Number of initiatives and projects implemented to promote mobilization and engagement of *forces vives*) Actual 2014: 4 Estimate 2015: 4 Target 2016: 4 (iv) Progress in fighting impunity, improving accountability and advancing regional judicial cooperation to strengthen the rule of law *Performance measures* (Number of extraditions and prosecutions of high-profile perpetrators and masterminds of serious human rights violations) Actual 2014: 4 Estimate 2015: 2 Target 2016: 4

	(v) Increased resources mobilized for the implementation of the Framework
	Performance measures
	(Increase in resources mobilized)
	Actual 2014: $1.15 million
	Estimate 2015: $4 million
	Target 2016: $4 million

Outputs

- Thematic papers and/or related projects developed jointly with partners that propose concrete regional actions to widen and deepen regional integration (5)
- Conferences facilitated jointly with partners to make recommendations for action, with participation of Government representatives, civil society groups, human rights defenders and women's groups from the Great Lakes region (2)
- Regional consultations by the Special Envoy and/or the Chief Political Affairs Officer to engage the political leadership in the region on the full implementation of the commitments under the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework (8)
- Cross-border projects initiated in close cooperation with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and United Nations partners (2)
- Coordination and collaboration meetings held with regional organizations to support the implementation of the Framework (2)
- Resources mobilized to support Framework-related activities funded through the trust fund of the Office of the Special Envoy ($4 million)
- Strategy for regional judicial cooperation developed (1)
- Facilitation of international conferences on the Great Lakes region (2)

External factors

230. The mandate of the Office of the Special Envoy is expected to achieve its objective provided that the signatory countries and witnesses/guarantors of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework, as well as Member States of the Security Council, continue to support the political process and implement appropriate follow-up measures, as proposed by the Regional Oversight Mechanism and the Special Envoy, and the situation in the region allows for the political dialogues between regional countries.

Resource requirements (regular budget)

Table 30
Financial resources
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2014-2015			Requirements for 2016			
	Appropriation	Estimated expenditure	Variance	Total	Non-recurrent	Total requirements for 2015	Variance 2015-2016
Category	(1)	(2)	(3)=(1)-(2)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)=(4)-(6)
Civilian personnel costs	5 599.3	6 186.8	(587.5)	2 996.3	–	2 729.9	266.4
Operational costs	3 561.9	3 090.0	471.9	1 743.2	140.0	1 820.2	(77.0)
Total	**9 161.2**	**9 276.8**	**(115.6)**	**4 739.5**	**140.0**	**4 550.1**	**189.4**

Table 31
Positions

	Professional and higher categories									General Service and related categories		National staff			
	USG	ASG	D-2	D-1	P-5	P-4	P-3	P-2	Subtotal	Field Security Service	General Service	Total international	National Professional Officer	Local level	United Nations Volunteers	Total
Approved 2015	1	1	–	1	4	6	3	–	16	1	2	19	1	7	–	27
Proposed 2016	1	–	1	1	4	6	4	–	17	1	1	19	1	7	–	27
Change	–	(1)	1	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	(1)	–	–	–	–	–

231. The projected overexpenditure in 2014-2015 is attributable primarily to the vacancy rate being lower than budgeted for both international and national staff, offset in part by reduced requirements in operational costs mainly due to the delayed engagement of individual contractors for communications services.

232. The proposed resources for 2016 for the Office of the Special Envoy amount to $4,739,500 (net of staff assessment). This amount would provide for the salaries and common staff costs for 27 positions (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 D-2 1 D-1, 4 P-5, 6 P-4, 4 P-3, 1 Field Service, 1 General Service (Other level), 1 National Professional Officer and 7 Local level) ($2,996,300), as well as operational costs ($1,743,200) comprising consultants ($70,000), official travel ($615,000), facilities and infrastructure ($87,800), ground transportation ($215,400), air transportation ($129,800), communications ($174,100), information technology ($247,400) and other supplies, services and equipment ($203,700).

233. In 2016, the Office of the Special Envoy is proposing to relocate the positions of the Special Envoy (Under-Secretary-General) and the Special Assistant (P-4) from Geneva to Nairobi. Furthermore, in the light of the proposed relocation of the Special Envoy (Under-Secretary-General) to Nairobi, the Office is proposing the abolishment of the positions of the Special Adviser (Assistant Secretary-General), based in Nairobi, and the position of Administrative Assistant to the Special Envoy (General Service, Other Level) based in Geneva. The Office of the Special Envoy is

also proposing to establish a position of Chief Political Affairs Officer (D-2) based in Nairobi, and a Political Affairs/Liaison Officer (P-3) based in Kinshasa.

234. The travel costs for the Special Envoy and his support staff between Geneva and Nairobi during the period that they were based in Geneva up to 31 December 2015 is estimated at $411,500.

235. The Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Great Lakes Region envisages actions at the national, regional and international levels for effective implementation. The Security Council, in its resolutions 2098 (2013), 2147 (2014) and 2211 (2015), called upon the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region and the Special Representative for the Democratic Republic of the Congo to collaborate in order to support, coordinate and assess the implementation of national and regional commitments, including through the promotion of timely, credible and inclusive national elections and regional dialogue. The effective implementation of the Framework also requires the Office of the Special Envoy's support and intervention at multiple critical levels. These are primarily: (a) at the Regional Oversight Mechanism, comprising the Heads of State of the region and the witnesses/guarantors; (b) the Technical Support Committee, comprising the principal representatives of the Heads of State of the region, tasked with deliberating and advising the Regional Oversight Mechanism on the Framework's implementation; and (c) through frequent bilateral interactions with high-level officials, relevant stakeholders and international partners. In this regard, the proposed Chief Political Affairs Officer (D-2) would provide strategic and political advice to the Special Envoy, and would ensure regular, timely and high-quality reporting by the mission's leadership. The Chief Political Affairs Officer would support the mission leadership in developing and maintaining relationships with senior officials in the Framework's signatory countries; chair working-level meetings of the governing structures of the Framework; and liaise on behalf of the Special Envoy with political and community leaders, civil society actors, United Nations country teams and other national and international partners. Furthermore, the Security Council, through its resolution 2211 (2015), has mandated the Special Envoy to promote timely, credible and inclusive national elections and dialogue in the region. This will significantly increase the workload of the Special Envoy and the support required from the Office, particularly in the run-up to the series of elections scheduled to take place in the region from 2015 to 2018 and their potential to affect peace and stability in the Great Lakes region. It is envisaged that the Special Envoy will be highly mobile and frequently involved in facilitating complex political negotiations and mediated dialogue processes in the region and will require strategic advice and senior-level substantive backup in the field. The Chief Political Affairs Officer would lead the Political Unit in order to provide sound political advice and support to the Special Envoy in the implementation of mandates and relevant Council resolutions. The incumbent would also carry out the good offices of the Secretary-General, as appropriate, under the Special Envoy's delegated authority. Furthermore, she/he would act as Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Special Envoy when the Special Envoy is travelling or otherwise unable to attend to the day-to-day management of the Office.

236. The Security Council, in its resolutions 2098 (2013), 2147 (2014) and 2211 (2015), called upon the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region and the Special Representative for the Democratic Republic of the Congo to collaborate in order to support, coordinate and assess the implementation of national and regional

commitments, including through the promotion of timely, credible and inclusive national elections and regional dialogue. In order to provide a functional basis for effective collaboration and synergy between MONUSCO and the Office of the Special Envoy, the Office proposes the establishment of a Political Affairs/Liaison Officer position (P-3), to be based in Kinshasa, who will work closely with the MONUSCO unit dedicated to supporting the implementation of the national commitments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo under the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework. The Political Affairs/Liaison Officer would be embedded within this unit and would facilitate information-sharing and joint analyses, including assessments and reports on the implementation of the national commitments. She/he would serve as the critical link between MONUSCO and the Office of the Special Envoy in areas where mandates overlap. She/he would also support the Special Envoy in the context of his frequent visits to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and his engagements with the Congolese authorities and civil society.

237. The variance (increase) between the 2016 proposed resources and the 2015 approved budget is attributable mainly to the application of a lower vacancy rate in 2016 compared with 2015 for both international and national staff, based on the actual vacancy rate, offset in part by reduced overall requirements for operational costs as a result of the relocation of the Special Envoy from Geneva to Nairobi.

Extrabudgetary resources

238. As at August 2015, an amount of $1.5 million in extrabudgetary resources had been received from various donors in 2015 ($2.6 million since inception of the mission in 2013), which has facilitated the launch of 10 socioeconomic projects (including the preparation of the Great Lakes Private Sector Investment Conference, support of the Women's Platform and activities to empower civil society and youth) as well as various high-level meetings, such as the Ministerial Consultation for the land and property rights of the displaced, the Foreign Ministers' retreat on the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework and a national seminar in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to develop benchmarks for the implementation of the Framework. In August 2015, the Office of the Special Envoy submitted a proposal to a donor country for funding amounting to $1.5 million for projects based in Burundi in 2016. The Office aims to mobilize resources of $4 million per year, which includes approaching a number of donors in 2015 for additional contributions. Further commitments in trust fund contributions and in contributions in-kind (such as placing consultants at the disposal of the Office) are being finalized for $250,000 in 2015.